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Vignettes of Clifton Park I

Blythe Gehring

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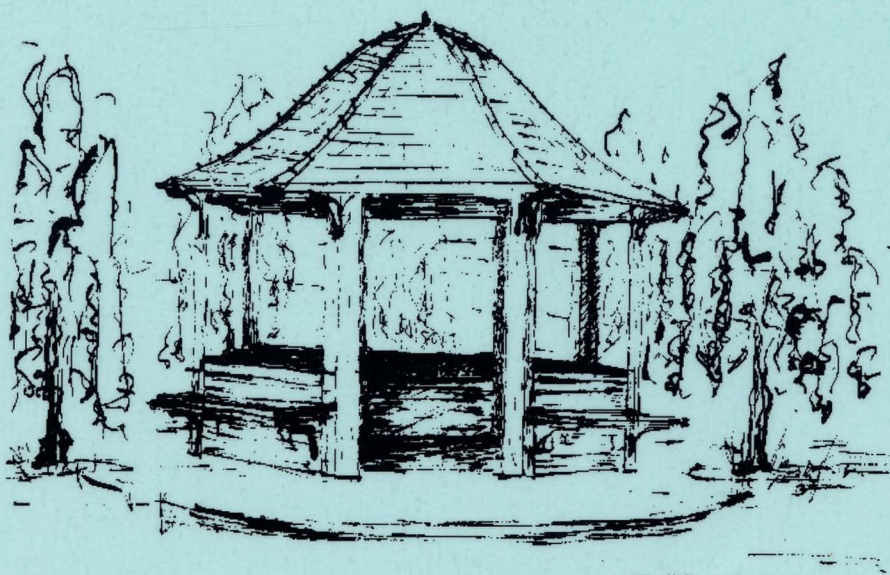
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Vignettes of CLIFTON PARK

Limited Edition



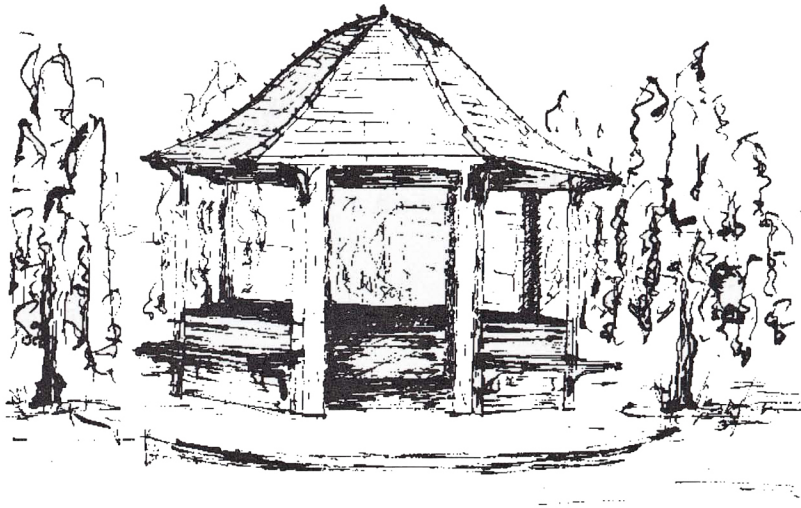
by

Blythe R. Gehring



Vignettes of CLIFTON PARK

Limited Edition



by

Blythe R. Gehring



DEDICATED TO AND COMPILED FOR

Mary-Blythe Gehring

and

Carl Walter Gehring III

AND TO ALL THE CHILDREN OF CLIFTON PARK

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VIGNETTES OF CLIFTON PARK
by Blythe R. Gehring

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at Penton Press
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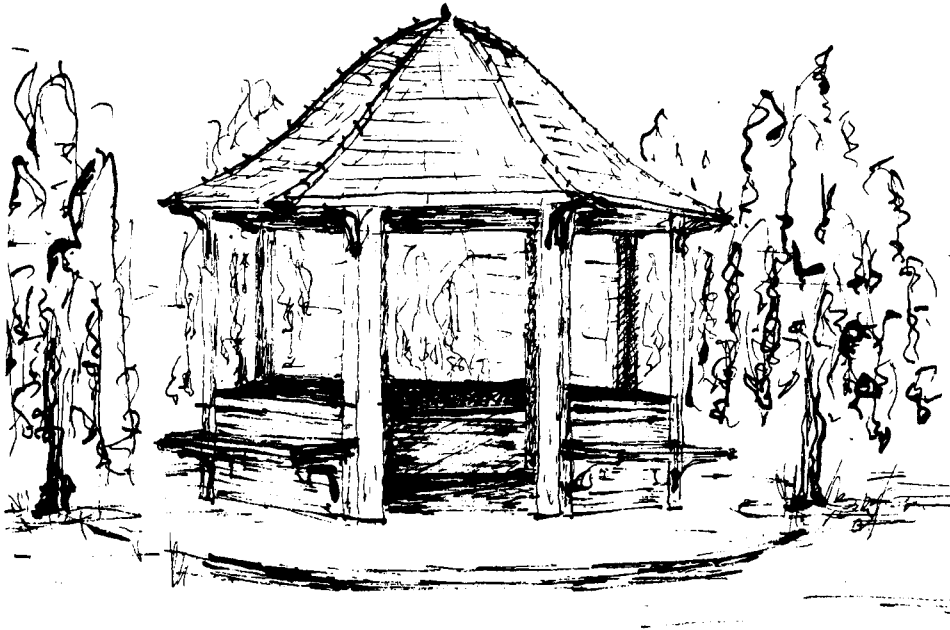
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1996



Sketch by Shirley Bowers

The Waiting House for the Park residents who used the trolley cars stood at the first entrance to Clifton Park.

If the House were still there today it would be in the east bound lane of the new road right at George Usher's house.

Mulberry trees grew around the little building and the fruit was eaten by the trolley patrons.

The sketch is a composite of many memories. No photograph has been found to add or subtract any detail in the sketch.

The building originally was all enclosed with windows on six sides and doors on the seventh and eighth side. The House was "attacked" so many times that windows and doors were removed and it stood in the above "open" manner for many years. The watering trough which is on the west bound tree lawn now was originally close by the House.

The sketch was done by Shirley Bowers (Mrs. Robert H.).

CLIFTON PARK

Here is a quote from the Cleveland Plain Dealer of June 10, 1934:

"British Troop Disaster at Rocky River in 1764. Dead men's skulls - scores of them - and bones in a shallow grave. Cannon and musket balls, bayonets and guns, ancient coins, long buried in beach sands. Where? In the Dry Tortugas or in Pensance? No, right here in Rocky River!

"From Hahn's Grove on the western side of Rocky River to our own Clifton Beach were found the above mentioned articles and remains. This was all brought to light by Arthur M. Hall of 16915 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood. (Now the site of the Lakewood Y. M. C. A. buildings). Mr. Hall read the account in the Journal of the French Villyain in the Cleveland Public Library.

"In the summer of 1764 Chief Pontiac was waging war on the British and American settlers. Detroit was in a state of seige. Colonel Bradstreet left Fort Niagara with 3,000 men. Destination was Detroit. His purpose was to relieve the garrison at Detroit. Two trips were made and each time some men were directed to Detroit by a land route and some by the Lake route. It was the second trip (returning from Detroit) made by water that proved disastrous. By the time of the second trip returning east it was October, a time of wicked Lake Erie storms. Bradstreet's fleet consisted of batteaux each boat being 46 feet in keel, and carrying 27 men with provisions for three weeks. The boats were lightweight for portage.

"It was when the floating troops were between Cedar Point and Lorain that a storm blew up. Instead of seeking safe harbor at the Black River they kept going on and finally the rough seas were too much. They decided to beach at Hahn's Grove six-tenths of a mile west of Rocky River. During the landing process half the boats were lost in the rough surf. Boats were smashed, men drowned. Bodies and equipment were scattered and washed down the shoreline, up Rocky River to the Yacht Club Island and onto Clifton Beach.

"Survivors clambered up steep cliffs with the aid of bayonets stabbed deep into the clay and shale to gain the top. The bayonets were found as late as the early 1800's still fastened in the cliffs."

These artifacts - bayonet, musket, etc. are now in the Western Reserve Historical Society Museum.

It was later uncovered that the French Villyain was Captain John Montreosor, chief engineer of the Bradstreet expedition.

Adventurers Ahoy! Six brass cannon and a box were buried in some sandy point. There is no record of these items being reclaimed by the British. Which sandy point? Our Clifton Beach?

*Upon further research reading loaned by Mrs. Margaret Butler it was found that this disaster has been in controversy for many years. There were two expeditions that ended in disaster. The first was in 1763 headed by Captain Wilkins and the second in 1764 commanded by Colonel Bradstreet. It was deducted by Dr. Jared Kirtland that the Wilkins expedition of 1763 was the one that washed ashore on Clifton Beach and the Yacht Club Island. The one of 1764 occurred in Rocky River at Hahn's Grove.

There were many evidences of the disasters at both places. Dr. Kirtland saw and handled the remains found in hasty graves, and he saw the artifacts that had been uncovered by plow and shovel.

*From Early History of Cleveland by Charles Whittlesey

A plaque dedicated to Colonel Bradstreet and the disaster was placed at 22300 Lake Road, Rocky River, Ohio on Sunday, June 30, 1968 by The Connecticut Daughters of the Western Reserve.

The Clifton Park lands we trod are the battle spoils of French, British and Indian wars. Clifton Park dwellers live in prime territory and prime waters.

The land story of our section returns to 1795 in Connecticut when the Connecticut Land Company sold the unsurveyed Western Reserve lands sight unseen for about forty cents per acre.

Early owners of Park lands were Judson Canfield, Nathaniel Church, David Waterman, James Johnson, Timothy Chittenden, Penuel Cheney and two branches of Dwights. Through their heirs most of the land was bought by Ezra Nicholson and Israel D. Wagar. Wagar's great grandson, Kenneth Browne at 18138 Clifton Road has suffered the great irony about one hundred years later . . . the Browne lot has been partly taken for the right of way for the new roadway through the Park.

All of the above mentioned landowners' property in the Clifton Park section was eventually bought by the Clifton Park Association.

The following pages are a record of two business ventures, The Clifton Park Association and The Clifton Park Land Improvement Company, that never reached the goals set by the men who invested their money and time in the idea of Clifton Park.

In 1866 a group of Cleveland businessmen met and formed the organization known as The Clifton Park Association. These men were all successful businessmen. Most were officers of the companies they served.

It was found that transportation was needed to bring Clevelanders to Clifton Park. By 1869 the men of Clifton Park had built a narrow gauge railroad and had bought three engines. The railroad was known as The Rocky River Railroad and nicknamed the Dummy. The three engines were named The Dan P. Rhodes, The Elias Sims and The Mark Hanna. Also in 1869 the Articles of Incorporation were signed and the Clifton Park idea was then a concrete business venture.










The men of the Clifton Park Association had the idea of a huge resort area. The present Yacht Club Island was even considered in their plans. Old records show that Daniel P. Rhodes owned four-fifths of the island and Elias Sims owned one-fifth.

Photograph Courtesy of Mr. Hans Penndorph



This is to certify that eve the undersigned
 Daniel P. Rhodes. Elias Sims. George W. Jones
 John H. Sargent. Thomas Dixon. John -
 Spaulding. Ezra Nicholson. George E. Muttrell
 & Josiah Barber. Have asociated ourselves
 together to become a body Corporate as provided
 in an act. of the General Assembly of the State
 of Ohio passed April 5th 1866. and amended
 April. 16. 1867. for the purpose of constructing
 and maintaining buildings to be used for Hotels
 Storerooms. Conement Houses or Water Cure es-
 tablishments. for the treatment of invalids. and
 for places of General public resort. That the
 amount of the Capital Stock necessary for the
 purposes of said asociation is One hundred
 thousand Dollars. \$100,000. That the amount
 of each share is One hundred dollars. That the
 place of doing the business and exercising the
 privileges of said asociation is at or near the
 Mouth of ~~the~~ Rocky River in the Township of
 Rockport. Cuyahoga County Ohio. That the name
 and style by which said Company shall be -
 known is the Clifton Park Asociation

In witness whereof we hereunto set our hands and
Seals the 28th day of January A.D. 1869.

D^r Rhodes  Thomas Dixon 
Elias Sims  John Spaulding 
G. W. Jones  E. Nicholson 
John H. Sargent  Geo E Hartnell 
Josiah Barber 

State of Ohio
County of Cuyahoga } ss

A171 1245

Personally appeared before
me a Justice of the Peace in and for said County
the within named Daniel P. Rhodes, Elias Sims,
George W. Jones, John H. Sargent, Thomas Dixon,
John Spaulding, Ezra Nicholson, George E. Hartnell
& Josiah Barber, who acknowledged that they
did sign and seal the foregoing instrument and
that the same is their free act and deed.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
my hand this 29th day of January 1869
Daniel Stephens
Justice Peace

MEN OF THE CLIFTON PARK ASSOCIATION - 1869

Daniel P. Rhodes	Served on the Cleveland School Board. Coal operator. Owner in part, of the Westside Street Railroad and the Rocky River Railroad (Dummy) and of Cliff House.
Elias Sims	Owner, in part, of the Rocky River Railroad. Real estate.
George W. Jones	Captain Jones, shipyard owner.
John H. Sargent	Civil engineer, road builder, owner, in part, of the Rocky River Railroad and Cliff House. Cleveland Parks Board of Commissioners. Real estate developer.
George Hartnell	Peoples Savings and Loan Association.
Ezra Nicholson	Owner, in part, of the Rocky River Railroad. Inventor of the Nicholson Log (a marine device which records ships' speed), large land owner in early Clifton Park property.
Josiah Barber	Real estate. Chief stockholder in Cuyahoga Steam Furnace Co. Active in city government of Ohio City. First president of Riverside Cemetery. Gave land for an open air market and public square at West 25th St. and Lorain Ave.
John Spalding.	Captain Spalding was in charge of the canal locks at the Soo. He was known to all the old time captains. Owned the Alameda Allotment in Rockport.
Thomas Dixon	Real estate developer in association with J. H. Sargent.

The old red brick building on Clifton Beach which has served for many years as a work-center for Beach workers and as a home for the Beach caretakers, was originally built to house the Rockport Pumping Station.

Cleveland Water Department records tell that the Rockport system was a "first high service," which means water was pumped once a day into a well plus a storage tank. The water level was kept at 15 to 18 inches in the tank to maintain pressure. The tank was on Clifton Road at the present location of Arlington Road. The water intake was just west of the Pump House. The intake pipe ran about 190 feet from the Pump House into the lake. The well was close by the Pump House in what is now the Lagoon.



Cleveland water began servicing Rockport through one meter in November of 1895. The Rockport Pumping Station then became inactive.

There is no date on the Pump House. Lakewood records have no date but because of the activity of the Park, Cliff House and other buildings it is believed the Pump House went to work in 1873.

The Army Engineer Corps has navigation map records on the pier at the east side of the Rocky River channel. Authority to construct a stone pier was given to the Army Corps in 1872 and work was started and completed in 1873. In 1881 the pier was repaired and made so it rose five feet above the water level. In 1937 an authority was given to the Army Corps to build the pier to its present length and to improve the pier with lights, etc. Actual work did not begin until 1941 when money was available.

George H. Singleton, 1378 Belle Avenue, tells about early Clifton Park. "Clifton Park got its name from The Cliff House Estate (later named Murch House) because that company (Clifton Park Association) owned the entire Park at that time. It was a picnic ground. I came with the First Congregational Church Picnic to the old pier in a small pleasure steamer in the summer of 1872. We walked up the hill and along a small path to the Cliff House, where the real picnic grounds were among the great big acorn trees, as we called them. There is where I saw the first acorn."*

The heyday of the Park as a public amusement spot was in the 1870's and 1880's. There was great activity in boating, large picnic groves, clean bathing and beer gardens. Those who could afford it came to Clifton Park on the Dummy Railroad while others came in wagons on the bumpy roads, and some came on boat excursions from Cleveland.

The entrance to Clifton Park was at a Dummy Railroad stop on Railroad Avenue (now Sloane Avenue). After leaving the train and turning west there was a broad avenue called Vista Street. There is a reminder of this street at the present footbridge over the Norfolk and Western Railroad tracks called Vista Bridge. Within the Park there is a remnant of Vista Street consisting of trees that in a line run through the rear yards of Forest Road lots on the west side of Forest. Mr. Wallace Snow, 1122 Forest Road, has had a metal sign made that reads "Vista Street" and fastened it to one of those few remaining trees which once lined the old street.

The route Vista Street took through the Park was from the footbridge to the Lake's edge. It is hard to plot the street exactly because each map used has been in different scale.

The Clifton Park Association bought lands south of the Park with the possible thought of expanding. This property, on the rim of the valley, was known as the Scenic Park Allotment of Clifton Park. Land owners on Rio, Gridley and Scenic Avenues have this wording on their early deeds. It is believed the larger "floor plan" of the Park was abandoned in 1881 when the Nickel Plate Railroad bought the Rocky River Railroad.**

* From Lakewood Library-Margaret Butler files.

**Information supplied by Ruth Houck (Mrs. Charles W.)

JOHN KNOLL'S PLACE

The earliest date found in regard to John Knoll and his Clifton Park and Clifton Beach establishments is the year 1874. Maps show where on the Beach the John Knoll properties were. The photograph, Knoll's Place, was taken in three parts and then skillfully matched. The figures of Mr. and Mrs. Knoll and their three daughters, nephews and other kin are repeated in the three sections.

The building on the left rear is the light wine, beer and food place. There is still a remnant of the cellar in the hillside. The cellar was used to keep food, wine and beer cool. The building in the center is the dance hall and dining room; the building at the right is the bowling alley.

Mr. Hans Penndorf, 26609 Midland Road, Bay Village, grandson of John Knoll, says his grandfather's place was for the family. A guest book is

among some of the treasures from John Knoll's

day. From it we read:

"The splendid breeze

which caused such a good

appetite is an inducement

to call again - August 18,

1881. Yacht Kitte, the

crew signed John

McMahon, John Dare,

John Gerlach - July 26,

1883. William Street

Coffee Club - September

12, 1883, thirty members

present. Saint Paul's

Church group from Scovill

and Greenwood Avenue.

Three young ladies signed

John Knoll's guest book on July 19, 1883, Irma Mueller, Laura Mueller and Minnie Seelbach. Detroit Baseball Club, August 27, 1882. Straub's String Band, July 21, 1883. Babcock's 8th Regiment Band from Akron, Ohio. Miss C. Odenthal of Columbus, Ohio wrote, "Mrs. Knoll is so pleasant, so clever, no trouble, no care is too much for her."

The last entry has the flavor of the day and the poetry of the teenager of the 80's . . .

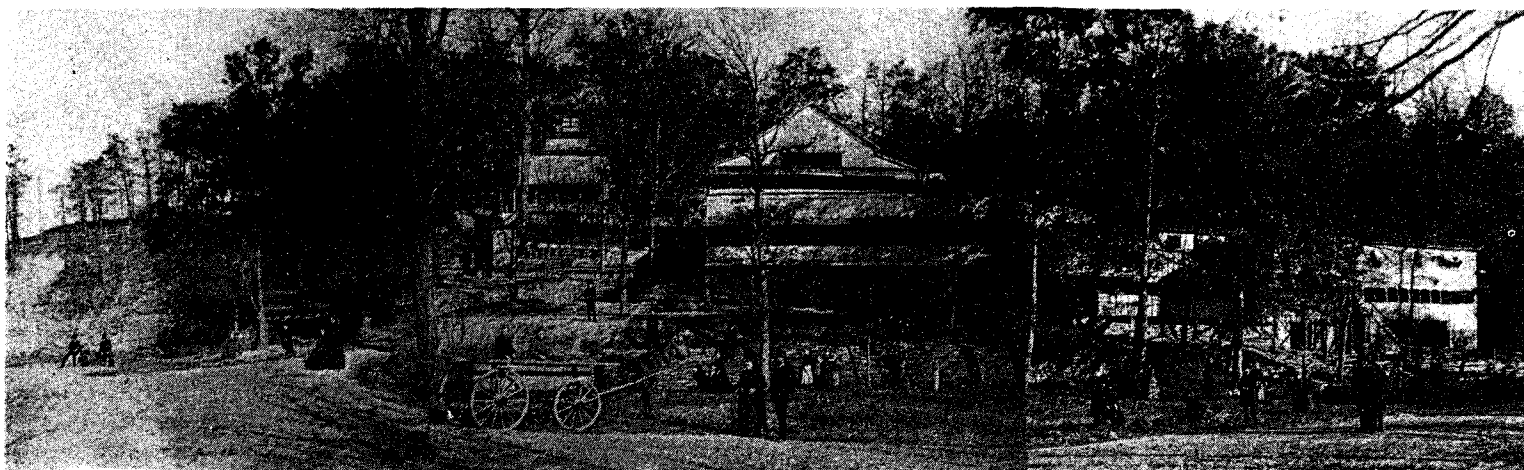
If when you are washing at the tub,
Think of me at every rub.
If the water is too cold,
Think of me, but do not scold.

Lottie Knoll
Rocky River, 1887



There is an interesting passage found in the Abstract Title records of Clifton Park - "Israel Wagar got the Dwight #4 lots in the 3rd division (Beach and Lagoon) - Wagar sold to John Knoll. Knoll ran the hotel, picnic grounds and amusements on the Beach. John Knoll sold to Clifton Park Association." * Mr. Penndorf remembers his mother telling how she drove the team of horses while her father John Knoll, cleared and widened Beach Road hill.

From 1869 when the Articles of Incorporation were signed forming the Clifton Park Association and for five years afterward, Clifton Park was a great summer resort. By 1874, apparently the resort idea was not bringing in a good financial return to the owners. A subdivision of eighty some lots was made within the Clifton Park Allotment. The subdivision and its streets were in the upper or southern end of Forest and Clifton Roads.

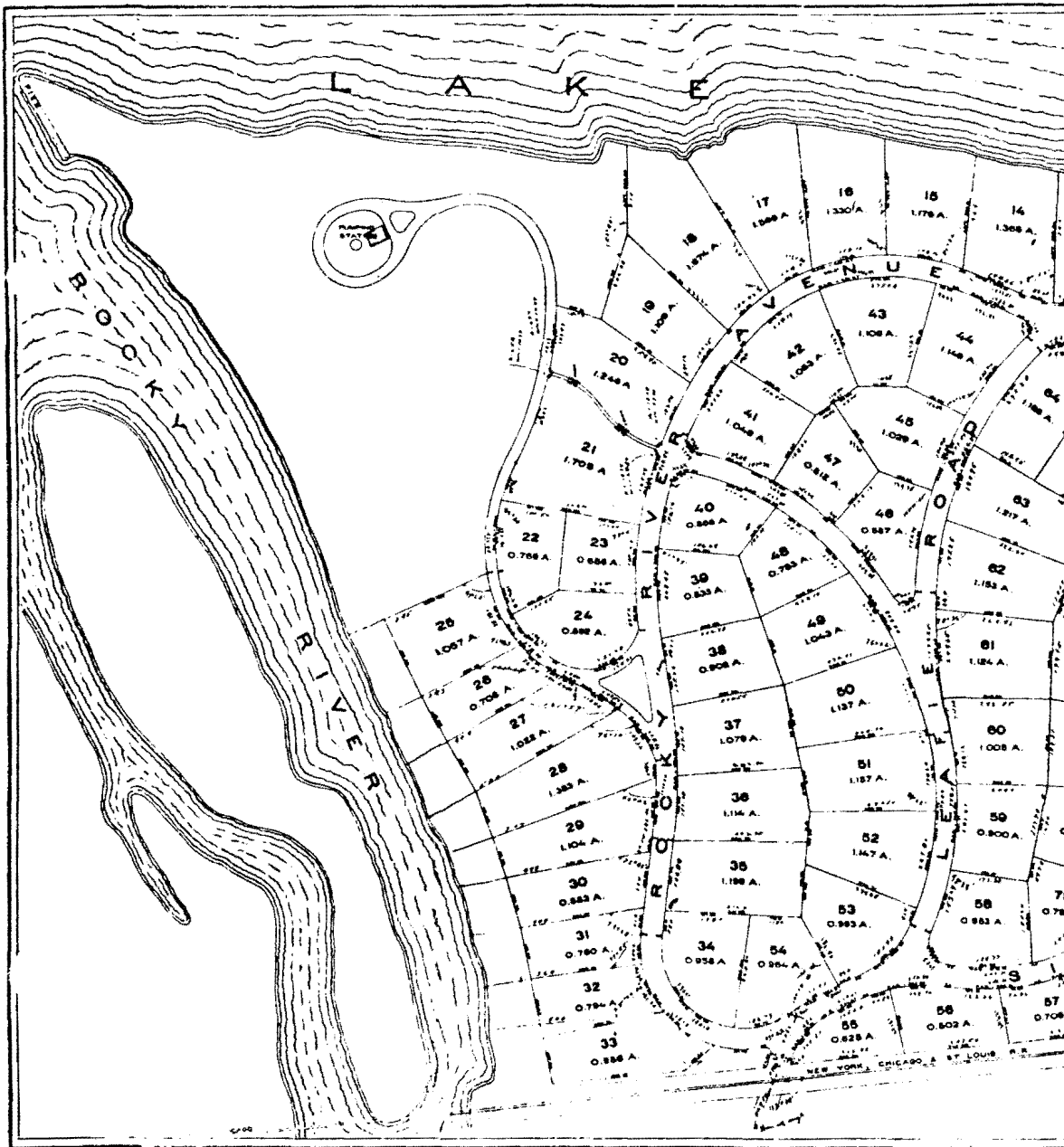


For map lovers the 1894 map of Clifton Park, prepared by Ernest W. Bowditch, a landscape gardener of Boston and New York, is an interesting one. It is reproduced on the following pages. The lots number from one to ninety-six and they are all about an acre in size. The roads are named differently too . . . the old names honor early Clifton Park people.

Clifton Road was Sims Avenue for Elias Sims; Forest Road was Leafie Road, the nickname of Mrs. William Starkweather; Lake Road was Rocky River Avenue (from Scenic Subway to West Forest); Lake Road was Cliff Road (from West Forest to Webb Road); West Clifton Road was Rhodes Avenue; and West Forest Road had no name. In the 1895 Blue Book of Cleveland, Helen deKay Townsend found the notation that Mrs. Starkweather was the daughter of Elias Sims.

On the Bowditch map lot number 18 was the Starkweather lot. Lot #25 was the Henry D. Coffinberry lot. Note the pumping station on the beach. There was no Arlington Road in 1894; part of that section was for stables and the water tank.

*In 1881 the Dummy Railroad was bought by the Nickel Plate Railroad. With the Dummy no longer bringing people to Clifton Park, Knoll's Restaurant and the other establishments suffered. Knoll closed and sold the land to the Clifton Park Association. The buildings and contents were auctioned off in 1887.

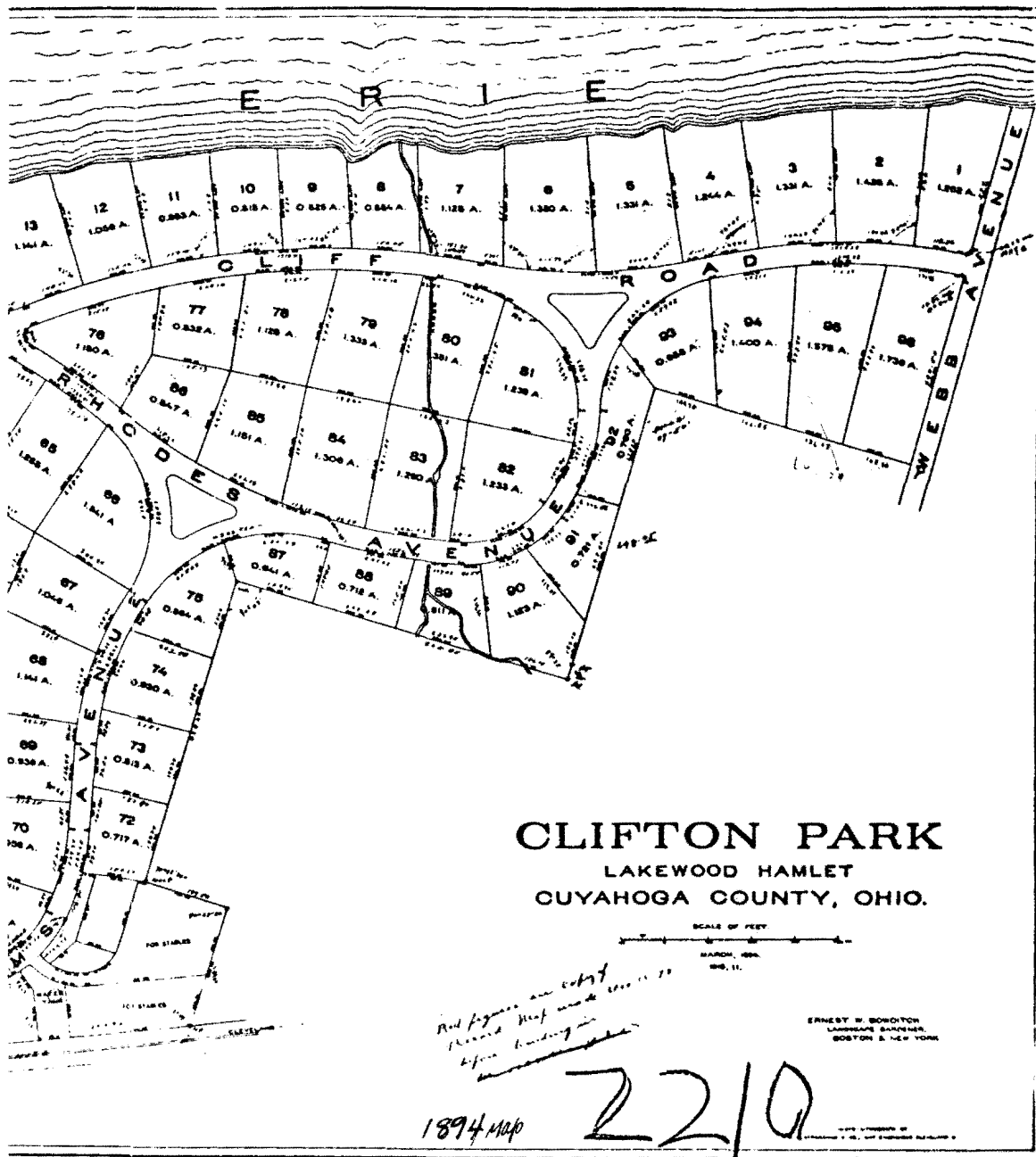


Map courtesy of Mr. Lerin Weddell

The question of why and how a man in Boston, Massachusetts laid out the street plans and the lots of Clifton Park is found in Cleveland history.

"Further evidence of the wisdom of the commissioners (A. Everett, Jephtha H. Wade, J. M. Curtiss) was the retaining of E. W. Bowditch, the noted landscape architect of Boston, for perfecting the plans of this splendid conception."* This quote is from the records of how Gordon Park, Wade Park and Rockefeller Park were planned for the City of Cleveland.

So, when Clifton Park was being thought of as a modern residential section, its leaders called on the well-known Mr. Bowditch.



One of the men sent to Clifton Park from the Bowditch offices was Myron B. Vorce. Mr. Vorce was a native Cleveland. In his early years Mr. Vorce was a clerk in a Cleveland store. He left his staid clerking position and joined a surveying party which took him to Tennessee. Mr. Vorce proved to be a natural mathematician and he possessed a good mechanical skill. While in Tennessee he accepted a position with E. W. Bowditch of Boston.

Mr. Vorce was eventually sent to Cleveland to develop Euclid Heights and Clifton Park. He stayed on in Cleveland to help develop the boulevard system. In 1898 Mr. Vorce went into private practice in Cleveland.

*From A History of Cleveland, Ohio, Vol. II, by Samuel Orth of the Cleveland Bar, 1910, and the kindness of Mr. Wallace Snow.

THE PIONEERS

The first recorded lot in Clifton Park was at 17866 Lake Road, which became the Lake Point Drive subdivision in 1969. This was the W. J. Starkweather property, bought in 1897. However, in the Cleveland Blue Book of 1895 it is stated that the William J. Starkweathers lived in Clifton Park and the name of their home was Wywoka. Henry D. Coffinberry also is listed in the Blue Book as living in Clifton Park in 1895. His later land holdings became the Coffinberry Estates in Fairview Park according to Mr. Coffinberry's granddaughter, Mrs. Phillip M. Schloss of Shaker Heights.

We find in the Abstract Title records that the early upper Lake Road lots referred to the "Leafie Starkweather" lot when describing the footage of the newer lot.

The land description of the first house in Clifton Park, the William J. Starkweather home, 17866 Lake Road, contains this quote from the deed "and known as being part of Original Rockport Township Sec. 23. Situated in the City of Lakewood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio and described as follows: Commencing at a stone set at the intersection of the center line of the Vista with the center line of Elm Street, as dedicated in plat of the Clifton Park Association Subdivision. Thence along the center line of the Vista and said center line produced Northerly, thence Westerly to a proposed right of way, 50 feet wide, called Rocky River Avenue."

The house was a summer home for the Starkweathers. Even so the house contained nineteen large rooms. Mrs. Frank U. S. Gilbert supplied the deed information and also said there were seven fireplaces in the house. Mahogany woodwork was used throughout the house. There was a Roman influence in the detail of the fireplaces such as the use of dentils under the mantel shelf. Dentils are small blocks of wood placed at intervals for decoration.

The House, a center hall arrangement, had the welcome of a fireplace in the reception room, with built-in fireside seats on each side of the fireplace. Mrs. Gilbert said, "It was the coziest fireplace in the house. On a freezing day all the sofas were drawn up to the fire."

The staircase was finished in creamy woodwork with a large high window of leaded glass at the landing. The library had deep window seats, heavy carved moldings and all mahogany wall paneling.

An interest for children -- one of the later owners painted in mural style Dr. Suess' McElligott's Pool around the upper walls of the reception room. There was a feeling as though one were entering the grand saloons of a ship when moving through the public rooms.

A note about the 1956 storm. The fantastic total of 53 trees were destroyed that night on the grounds. All were good size trees; some were forest giants. Windows were blown in and the wind was so fierce it blew a heavy capstone from its chimney. The capstone plunged through the roof where two sections of roof join. This is a difficult repair job.



The photograph of the house shows it after the repair work had been done, new roof, new windows, new siding.

On the lake side of the house were two massive wood beams 12 x 12 inches, carrying carved heads of Neptune and his wife Amphitrite. The Starkweathers apparently loved the water and this was their way of honoring the seas.

Very little was found about Mr. Starkweather, perhaps because so very much has been written about his father, Samuel Starkweather, a Cleveland pioneer. "Mr. W. J. Starkweather was interested in extensive real estate operations. He died at his Clifton Park home in 1899." *

Mr. Starkweather was a developer of Clifton Park when it was a public picnic and amusement area and he was active in developing Clifton Park as a residential spot.

Photograph courtesy of Mrs. Frank U. S. Gilbert.

*From the Annals of Early Settlers Association of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Volume IV, Number II.

The second lot to be bought from the Clifton Park Association was the Henry D. Coffinberry lot at 17884 Beach Road. It was bought a few months after the Starkweather lot, but still in the year 1897. This property was more widely known as the Charles B. Stowe home. Even though the lot is within the borders of Clifton Park it is not part of the Clifton Park allotment. This property is in Lakewood proper.



Photograph courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Clinton Barry

The house shown above is no longer standing. In its place is a brick Georgian style house presently owned by Dr. Edward J. Bishop.

Charles B. Stowe, later owner of the Coffinberry house, was born in Cleveland in 1862, and educated in the Cleveland schools. Mr. Stowe was a direct descendent of Joshua Stow, purser of the Connecticut Land Company, and a son of William Stow, the first settler of Summit County, Ohio (Stow, Ohio).

Mr. Stowe was president of the Stowe-Fuller Refractories Company. He also served as Vice President of Cleveland Mortgage Company; Director of City Savings and Loan Company; Director of Open Hearth Fire Brick Company; Director of City Investment Company; President of National Fire Brick Company; President of Mirror Fire Brick Company; Director of Lockhaven Fire Brick Company and the Federal Refractories Company.

Mr. Stowe held memberships in the Cleveland Art Club, the Clifton Club, Union Club, Westwood Golf Club, Masonic Lodge and the Elks.*

*From the Book of Clevelanders of 1914, Burrows Bros. Co., and Representative Clevelanders, Cleveland Topics Co., 1927.

The third house in the Park was built in 1899 by John G. Jennings. Here is another Victorian home with towers capped with battlements. It was originally the summer home of the Jennings family. It was purchased in 1955 by Dr. John D. Bibbs. The kind of woodwork has not been determined as the interior has been completely painted prior to the Bibbs' ownership. The public rooms are large and the living room is 30 x 30 feet. There is a sweeping view of the lake from the large picture window in the living room. The fireplace in the living room has a white marble facing. Sliding doors are used in the living room, dining room and library.

The library has an oak beamed ceiling and a whole wall of bookcases. In the center of the bookshelves is a hidden bar. Both the thirst for knowledge and the throat can be fixed here. The library fireplace and wall is all in carved plaster and finished in a wood effect of linenfold design. The wainscoating in the library is of the same carved plaster. This makes a warm and old English style room.

The dining room and living room fireplaces are back to back and in the dining room is another picture window giving a broad view of the lake.

On the first floor is an extra large closet which was originally an elevator to service the household. Going up the staircase the hand rail is of hammered



wrought iron. The landing has a three foot high railing running along the upper hall in gallery style. The upper hall is large and in the beginning the elevator exited here.

All the bedrooms are large and three of the bedrooms have the delightful feature of jalousied sleeping porches for summer sleeping.

Mrs. Isaac L. Jennings, daughter-in-law of John G. Jennings said, "Some of my happiest memories of Clifton Park was when my husband and I were first married.

The John Jennings home was situated on Lake Avenue overlooking Lake Erie from the high bluff.

"All the families loved their gardens and I remember running over to the Jennings garden which was across the road and picking flowers for the house. I loved also walking along the edge of the bluff in front of the home when the lake looked especially lovely just when the sun was coming out on a clear day.

"Everyone of the neighbors seemed so friendly. It was like a small community then, one felt away from the city. Everyone appreciated their homes. Mr. John Jennings also had French plays up on their third floor."

The Jennings called their home, Restcliff.

Mr. Jennings was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1856; he was educated in the Cleveland public schools. He graduated from Yale University in 1878.

In 1883, Mr. Jennings entered the firm of Lamson, Sessions and Company as a bookkeeper. In 1884 the business was incorporated as the Lamson and Sessions Company and Mr. Jennings became Treasurer and a Director. In 1911, Mr. Jennings became Vice President of the company. Mr. Jennings was also a Director and Secretary of the Johnston and Jennings Company, a foundry and manufacturing firm. He was active in industrial circles as well as civic and social groups. The following is a list of his associations in Greater Cleveland:

Director of the Ferry Cap and Screw Company; President of the Clifton Club Company; Trustee of the Cleveland Federation for Charity and Philanthropy; Trustee of Riverside Cemetery Association; President of Pilgrim Congregational Society. He was a member of the Union Club, Clifton Club, Lakewood Yacht Club, Westwood Golf Club, Cleveland Chamber of Commerce and the Tippecanoe Club.*

*From Cleveland and Its Environs by E. M. Avery, and the kindness of Mrs. F. U. S. Gilbert.

In 1899 the Clifton Park Association sold the reins of Park administration and lands to a new organization, The Clifton Park Land Improvement Company, as shown in these Articles of Incorporation.

These Articles of Incorporation

The Clifton Park Land and Improvement Company,

Witnesseth, That we, the undersigned,* all of whom are citizens of the State of Ohio, desiring to form a corporation, for profit, under the general corporation laws of said State, do hereby certify:

FIRST. The name of said corporation shall be The Clifton Park Land and Improvement Company.

SECOND. Said corporation is to be located at Cleveland in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and its principal business there transacted.

THIRD. Said corporation is formed for the purpose of purchasing, owning, controlling and selling certain Real Estate, situated in Cuyahoga County, State of Ohio, and known as the "Clifton Park Property" and formerly owned by "The Clifton Park Association", a corporation organized under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Ohio, and containing about One Hundred and forty (140) acres of land more or less: with full power and authority to buy, sell, lease, mortgage or improve the same.

FOURTH. The capital stock of said corporation shall be Three Hundred - Thousand Dollars (\$ 300,000.00), divided into Three Thousand (3,000) Shares of One Hundred Dollars (\$ 100.00) each.

In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto set our hands, this 15th day of July, A. D. 1899.

"all" or "a majority."

E. E. Robbins

John H. Jennings
F. C. Case
A. J. Hasbrouck

A. L. Stone
Harry L. Vail
E. C. Pope

Howard H. Burgess
Chas E Ferrell

The State of Ohio, County of Cuyahoga, ss.

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public

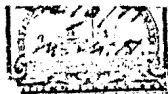
in and for said county, this 15th day of July, A. D. 1897,

the above named A. L. Stone, Harry L. Vail, E. C. Pope,
Howard H. Burgess, Chas E Ferrell, E. E. Robbins
John H. Jennings and F. C. Case

who each severally acknowledged the signing of the foregoing articles of incorporation to be his free act and deed, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

Witness my hand and official seal on the day and year last aforesaid.

Place ten cent
Revenue Stamp
Here.



M. M. Nobart

Notary Public

The State of Ohio, County of Cuyahoga, ss.

I, Harry L. Vail, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, within

and for the county aforesaid, do hereby certify that

M. M. Nobart

whose name is subscribed to the foregoing acknowledgment as a

Notary Public

was at the date thereof a

Notary Public

in and for said county, duly

commissioned and qualified, and authorized as such to take said acknowledgment; and further, that I am well acquainted with

his handwriting, and believe that the signature to said acknowledgment is genuine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, at

Cleveland

this 15th day of

July

A. D. 1897.

Place ten cent
Revenue Stamp
Here.



See Clerk's note. Use this Certificate and not attach their own.

Harry L. Vail

Clerk.

By G. A. Hallam

Deputy Clerk of Common Pleas
Cuyahoga County,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Men who were the incorporators of the Clifton Park Land Improvement Company, 1899, included:

Arthur L. Stone	Secretary and Treasurer of The Nicola, Stone and Myers Company.
Harry L. Vail	Editor of the Sunday Morning Voice in 1881. County Commissioner 1909 to 1912. County Clerk in 1894. Practiced law, interested in politics and in real estate. A member of many Cleveland organizations.
E. C. Pope	Great Lakes Shipping. Y. M. C. A. organizer.
Howard H. Burgess	Member of Cleveland City Council for 14 years. Member of Cleveland Public Library Board; staff member of The Sunday Morning Voice.
Charles E. Ferrell	Dealt in real estate.
Elmer E. Robbins	Carpenter, contractors with Builder's Exchange.
John G. Jennings	Cleveland industrialist. Gave behind the scene financial help to the new Lakewood Congregational Church.
Frank C. Case	Cleveland industrialist. Worked with J. G. Jennings in helping the Lakewood Congregational Church.
Clark T. Hasbrouck	Vice President of the Grief Brothers Company.

CLIFF PARK

Cliff Park in Clifton Park comprises two lots side by side between Mrs. Cyril P. Deibel, 17824 Lake Road and Dr. Carl Maldonado, 17830 Lake Road.

An 1899 map of Clifton Park shows a pavilion on the bluff which spanned the gully. There was also a bathing beach. Since the bluff is so steep there must have been a stairway to the beach.

The gully is still there but all trace of the pavilion is gone. There is still a small beach but there is no public stairway down to the beach.

Harry Hoffman tells how this gully went almost as far as Detroit Avenue and the gully was called the "Willows." A 1904 geological survey map called "The Baldwin Survey" shows this watery trench on the map; its widest part ending in Clifton Park.

THE OLD BATHHOUSE

This structure was built about 1899. It served as a meeting place for Park residents and Clifton Club members for years.

The "house" was built of heavy timber and it withstood dances, picnics, summer and winter storms. It even withstood the pail and water fights of the Stouffer boys, Gordon and Vernon.

The Bathhouse was a haven for everyone, including huge wooley spiders that seemed to lurk everywhere.

The house was not beautiful but it had the rugged charm of an old timer who enjoyed life. One summer, before World War I the Bathhouse was painted

by ambitious Clifton Park boys. The idea was a good one but the color didn't turn out as planned. It ended up being a sickly yellow. Too many stirring the paint pot!



(Photograph courtesy of
Mr. Frank Jontzen)

The furnishings of the Bathhouse were supplied through the "call" for contributions. The sturdy tables were made in the Beach workshop. There was an old square Steinway that stood on the second floor of the Bathhouse. The piano had old time stamina and grit. It was tuned every season and produced entertainment until the end of the Bathhouse.

During the winter of 1956 the Bathhouse burned to the ground. The kiddie pen which was right next to the Bathhouse was burned too. The following summer, 1957, a new Bathhouse was built in the same location and during the 1960 season the new kiddie pen was put up. The old wooden slide was also replaced. The replacement of the old slide was quite a relief to parent as well as to child. The trip down the slide produced at least one splinter per slider.

So, gone is the old Bathhouse and the old leisurely times in it. Each generation has its own memories, perhaps the new Bathhouse will mellow into fond memories for the new generations.

THE LAKEWOOD YACHT CLUB

On Clifton Beach there once stood a wooden building which was the home of the Lakewood Yacht Club, organized in 1900. The following are quotes from a folder of The Lakewood Yacht Follies of 1912: "First meeting held March, 1900 elected the first officers - T. R. Morgan, Commodore, George O. Campbell, Vice Commodore, M. B. Vorce, Fleet Captain, Dr. Henry Beck, Fleet Surgeon, Frank Fanning, Measurer.

Lakewood Yacht Club on Clifton Beach



(Photograph courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Sprinkle)

"A great friend to the cause was T. R. Morgan, the first commodore. He got permission from The Clifton Park Land Improvement Company to let the sailors use the river frontage for hauling boats out for repairs at a time when the club had no home. Later Morgan was instrumental in securing a leasehold of this property for the Club. Morgan was not a sailor or owner of a boat. For appreciation he was elected Commodore.

"Club consisted of 18 craft in 1900. At the end of 1902 the new clubhouse was nearly completed, but the cost of the building had nearly doubled. The total cost of the Clubhouse was \$2,171.92."

(Mr. Morgan lived at 17866 Lake Road. Tragically he was killed in the 'Mentor Wreck' in 1905. Two familiar names were included in the long list of men who gathered at the preliminary meeting in 1900. They were Henry and George Gerlach. The Lakewood Yacht Clubhouse stayed on the Beach until 1907 and was moved to the Yacht Club Island in Rocky River.)

THE CLIFTON CLUB

The Clifton Club was incorporated as a club in May, 1902. The clubhouse was built as a club; it did not occupy an old residence. The land the Club site is on was first leased from the Clifton Park Association for \$1.00 per year for 14 years and then finally bought outright by the Club.



Clifton Club 1904-1942 (Photograph courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Barry)

On a Sunday morning in January, 1942 the Club burned to the ground. Fine furnishings, Club records and a lot of comfortable living was gone in the smoke. Many people were married at the Club. Memories of excellent meals in the dining room, informal meetings of young people, billiards, card groups, children and adult dancing groups, and just plain relaxing on the wide verandas on a clear jewel day - gone.

From the Lakewood Press, March 7, 1918. "In 1904 before the automobile became

so extensively owned and before the time of the rapid transit street car service, there came a demand by a number of Lakewood residents for a family club in Lakewood. Many were members of various clubs in Cleveland but on account of the distance, the Clifton Club was organized. Membership in 1918 was about 225 persons. Officers of 1918 were: George S. Case, President, Walter C. Saunders, Vice President, Charles L. Fish, Secretary, C. R. Cross, Treasurer, W. A. Greenlund, Chairman of the House Committee.



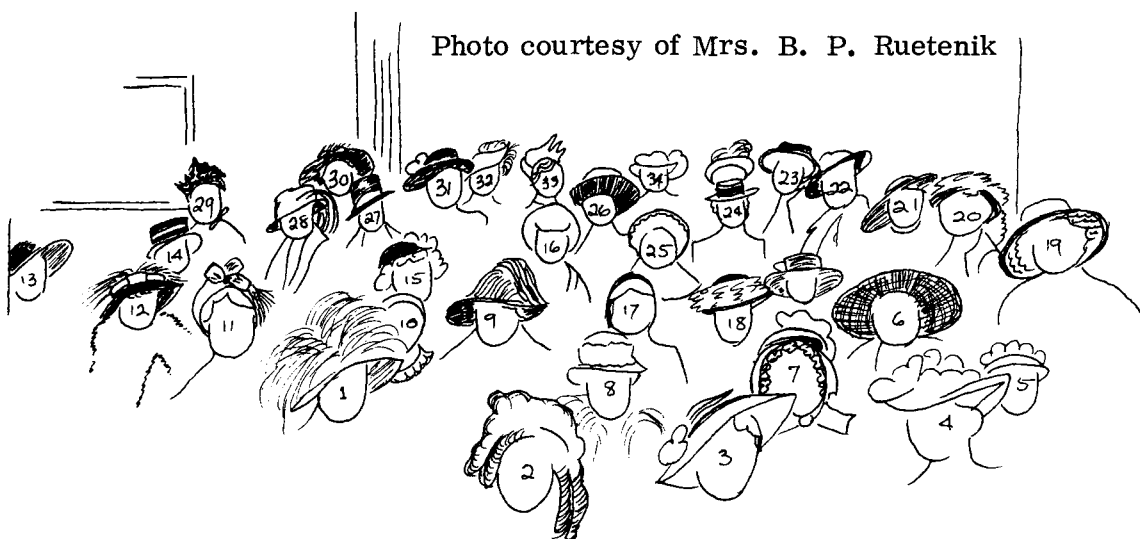
Clifton Club 1950

From January, 1942 during War II years and thereafter to June 1950, there was no clubhouse, but on June 2, 1950 a fresh new building stood on

the old club site ready to welcome its members once more. The purpose of the Clifton Club was restated as follows: "This corporation is a social club, the purpose of which is to provide means of entertainment, recreation, and enjoyment for its members, and their guests, and to promote culture, intellectual improvement, and social intercourse."



Photo courtesy of Mrs. B. P. Ruetenik



Mrs. Fred W. Stecher's Birthday Party at the Clifton Club 1934
in honor of Mrs. Charles Cody

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Charles Gager | 13. Mrs. Harry Cody | 24. Mrs. Edgar Meckes |
| 2. Mrs. Rose Cody | 14. Mrs. Wm. J. Hunkin | 25. Mrs. W. E. Wells |
| 3. Mrs. Fred Stecher | 15. Mrs. Chas. W. Brainard | 26. Mrs. Frank L. Sessions |
| 4. Mrs. William P. Weaver | 16. Mrs. Kirkpatrick | 27. Mrs. Palmer |
| 5. Mrs. James C. Pettee | 17. Mrs. Chas. L. F. Wieber | 28. Mrs. Teare |
| 6. Mrs. Edward G. Gilbert | 18. Mrs. Hudson E. Willard | 29. Mrs. Lyman A. Reed |
| 7. Miss Lucy Gleason | 19. Mrs. C. L. Cassingham | 30. Mrs. Alfred Kroenke |
| 8. Miss Carrie Tibbetts | 20. Mrs. Robert B. Ranney | 31. Mrs. Charles B. Stowe |
| 9. Mrs. Charles Honecker | 21. Mrs. Claude Wilkinson | 32. Mrs. James R. Sprankle |
| 10. Mrs. Lewis Foote | 22. Mrs. Higley | 33. Mrs. Frank McCartney |
| 11. Mrs. Maxwell G. Tielke | 23. Mrs. James O. King | 34. Mrs. Frederick W. Roberts |
| 12. Mrs. Roth Williams | | |

The Clifton Club

June Calendar

1932



THE CLIFTON CLUB WILL SERVE
A DINNER BEFORE OUR DANCES
AT \$1.00 A PERSON.
PHONE BOULEVARD 0078
FOR RESERVATION

Mrs. Edgar E. Adams was hostess to six guests at luncheon on Tuesday, May the 10th.

Mrs. F. W. Stecher entertained a foursome at luncheon and cards on Tuesday.

On Thursday evening, May 12th, the Hi-Y Club of Lakewood High School gave a dancing party. There were thirty couples present. Refreshments were served during the evening.

The Gamma Delta Tau sorority held their annual dance on Saturday evening, May 14th. At eleven thirty a buffet supper was served to the fifty guests in attendance.

On Thursday the 19th, Mrs. Eugene Kettering was hostess to sixteen guests at luncheon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. King entertained their card club at dinner and bridge on Thursday evening, May 19th. The guests numbered sixteen.

Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Reid were hosts to a small party also on that evening.

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Gilbert entertained at a family dinner party on Thursday evening.

Mrs. Robert Gresham was in charge of the card party given for the benefit of the Friendly Inn by the Junior Board on Friday, the 20th. Luncheon was served to two hundred and sixty-two.

On Saturday evening, May 21st, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Sessions entertained eleven guests at dinner.

Dr. and Mrs. A. N. Dawson were hosts for the Parent-Teachers Association of Horace Mann School at a card party given on Monday evening, May 23rd. Sixty members and guests were present.

Twenty-one members of the Toastmasters' Club held their monthly dinner meeting and program on Monday evening.

On Wednesday afternoon, May 25th, the pupils of Miss Helen Reid gave a dance recital which was very much enjoyed by the parents and friends of the children.

The College Club of Lakewood held a card party on Wednesday evening, May 25th, with an attendance of one hundred and seventy-two. Evening refreshments were served.

Mrs. J. I. Nunn gave a luncheon and bridge for eight guests on Thursday, May 26th.

Mrs. Arthur Bishop entertained a foursome at luncheon and bridge also on Thursday.

On Thursday evening, Mrs. F. W. Stecher was hostess at a family dinner party.

The Three Arts Club of Lakewood held their monthly program and tea on Friday afternoon, May 27th.

Mr. R. A. Weaver was host to several business associates at dinner on Friday evening.

The Phi Delta Rho Sorority, sponsored by Mr. H. E. Coyle gave their annual dance on Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Mars E. Wagar were hosts at a small dinner party on Saturday evening.

The June Calendar

TUESDAY, JUNE 14TH—LUNCHEON BRIDGE

Luncheon at 12:30. Cards at 2:00. Please make reservations by Monday the 13th.

MONDAY, JULY 4TH—FIREWORKS AND DANCING

A special dinner will be served to those making reservations. After the dinner there will be a display of fireworks at the beach, which may be seen from the Club lawn and porches. An orchestra will furnish music later for dancing. Kindly make early reservations.

May Notes

On Monday, May 2nd, Mrs. R. E. Lawrence entertained thirty-three members of her Y.W.C.A. group at luncheon and cards.

Mrs. P. J. McMyler was hostess to a foursome at luncheon and cards on that day.

Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Tielke entertained their card club, numbering sixteen, at dinner, on Thursday evening, May 5th. This group has enjoyed an evening at the Club House each alternate week since last Fall.

On Friday, May 6th, the Rocky River Research Club held their annual guest day with a luncheon for ninety-five members and their friends. A program of music and readings followed.

Mrs. H. A. Cunningham entertained a small party at luncheon and cards on Friday.

The dance given on Saturday evening, May 7th, by the Park One Hundred Club was in the nature of a hard times party, the costumes and decorations carrying out this idea in a very clever manner and furnishing much amusement. Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Stouffer and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Stouffer entertained fifteen guests at a hard times dinner preceding the dance. Dr. and Mrs. Edward Heil were hosts to eight guests at a similar dinner, as was also Mr. Walter Gehring.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lemperly were hosts at a dinner party for eight guests on Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McLean entertained a small party at dinner on Sunday evening, May the 8th.

The Lakewood Garden Club held their monthly program and tea on Monday the 9th, with Mrs. Henry W. Stecher, Mrs. D. D. Cody and Mrs. Claude Wilkinson as hostesses. A lecture was given by Mr. A. D. Taylor before fifty members and their guests.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Creswell and Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Cunningham entertained twelve guests at dinner and bridge on that evening.

Among those having dinner guests at the Club on Memorial Day were Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Folsom, Mrs. David L. Cable, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Dibble, Miss Amanda Rauch was hostess to eight guests at dinner and cards.

The Club kitchen was kept busy on that day preparing dishes of various kinds for those who took advantage of the beautiful weather for picnics on the beach. This form of entertaining bids fair to be even more popular than in past years.

It was with a great deal of regret that the entertainment committee was forced to cancel the Club's annual May ball which was to have been held on last Saturday evening, but owing to the small number of reservations and late cancellations, this was thought necessary.

Mr. and Mrs. Kleinsmith will have charge of the beach and bathing pavilion for the coming season.

The Sunset Is Still There

Come and see these wonderful works of art beyond the conception of any human being.

Your board of directors voted to temporarily suspend the Art Fund feeling that eight cents a week might be a strain during these times of stress, and while we have helped needy artists and obtained works of art for our club house, these beautiful pictures of the Diety are without cost, for it is hardly an effort to come to the great Clifton playground during the wonderful weather which is before us.

Newton Baker in his farewell speech to James H. Rogers said, "the great and splendid Babylon we have built has caved. As it was swept away I think we began to realize that the really satisfying things of life are beauty, loveliness and charm."

This is a timity The Clifton Club offers to you and your guests, but you must have the ability to open your hearts for the reception.

Let us repeat, "talk it over with the club management." It is not a case of the expense of entertaining but rather the economy.

A SUGGESTION

A chicken or ham sandwich with a fruit salad, dishes, table cloth, silver, all packed in a basket for a table on the beach or in the bathhouse. 65c.

CLIFTON LAGOON

The Lagoon was a cornfield in 1902, according to Lloyd McCartney! It was during the winter of 1908-09 that Rocky River and Lake Erie were so deeply frozen that the crush of ice from the Lake and upper River channel squeezed the ice into the soft sub soil of the Lagoon. In the spring thaw there was the beginning of the Lagoon.

In 1912 the Clifton Park Land Improvement Company had the Lagoon dredged. Water lots were sold to Clifton Park lot owners who were interested in boating.

The calm clear idea of a Clifton Park lot owner being an owner of a Lagoon water lot became complicated when the lot owner sold his home or lot to one person and his Lagoon water lot to a different person. The new owner of the

(Photo courtesy of J. T. Van Dorn)



Lagoon property developed ideas of a boat house. Later the boathouses became living quarters and in some instances the boathouses were winterized and the yachting people lived there year around. A Trusteeship was formed for the Lagoon people in 1912. All the ground that borders the Lagoon roadway and almost up to the Lagoon channel is Clifton Park land; however, the Lagoon owners maintain the grassy borders and the road.

Someone said the Lagoon houses remind one of a Dutch village. Through the efforts of the Lagoon Trustees and the cooperation of the owners the property is kept neat and is a compliment to the Cleveland Yacht Club across the river.

During the 1920's and 1930's when Prohibition reigned the Lagoon was the scene of illegal entry of whiskies and beer. It has been said a speedboat load of beer would be run into the Lagoon and if there was no gunfire or scuffle with the local police the illegal Canadian whiskies would follow. Sometimes there were gunshots. Once a body was found stuffed into an old well!

The original Lagoon Trustees were Edgar E. Adams, F. W. Roberts, and Harry A. Parsons.

Perhaps you have noticed the boathouses have two house numbers. The smaller number is the water lot number. This number was used as a mail address number until about 19 years ago. The mail boxes were at the top of Beach Road Hill. They were the country style mail box fastened onto a post. Now the mail is delivered to the door of each boathouse that has an occupant.

The Lagoon has grown from a lonely sailboat tied to a jetty to a 44-member family with sailing racers and power boats as costly as a permanent home.

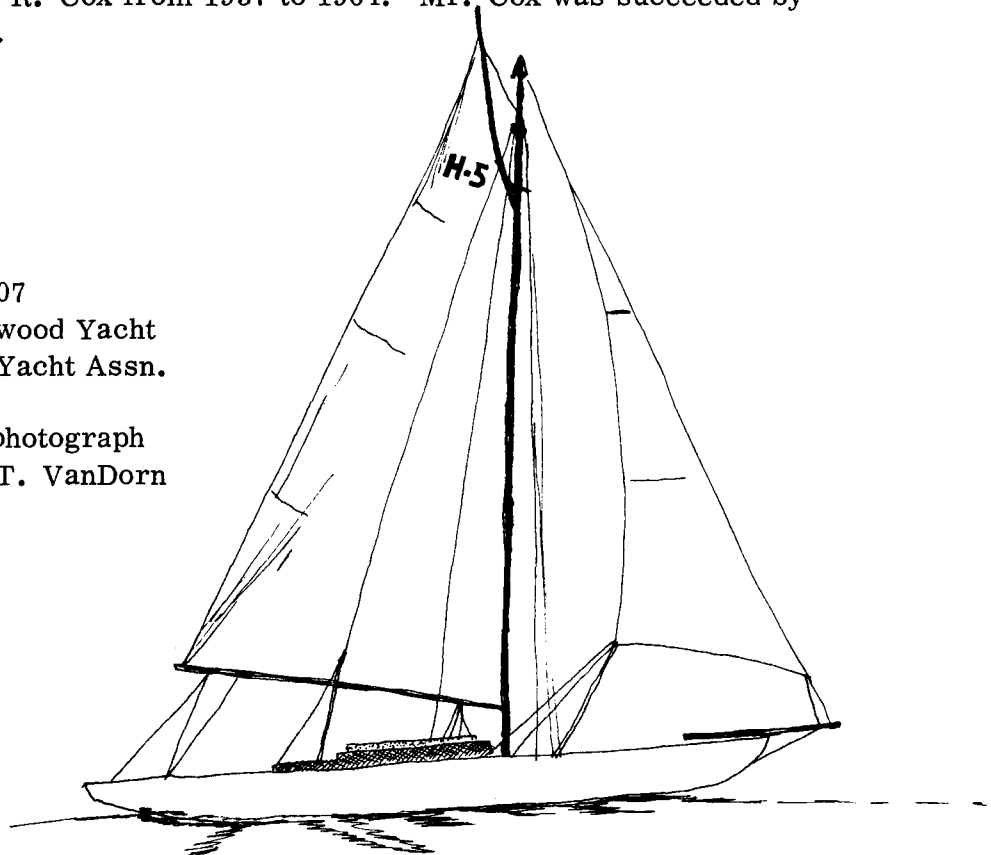
Mr. Harry A. Parsons served as Clifton Park Lagoon Trustee from 1912 to about 1920; he was succeeded by the following gentlemen: Thomas B. Van Dorn served from 1920 to 1945; Rollin L. Bacher served from 1945 to 1952; Elmer A. Beuther served from 1952 to 1960; James T. VanDorn (son of T. B. VanDorn) served from 1960 to 1963; and Nathan Shapiro served from 1963 to date.

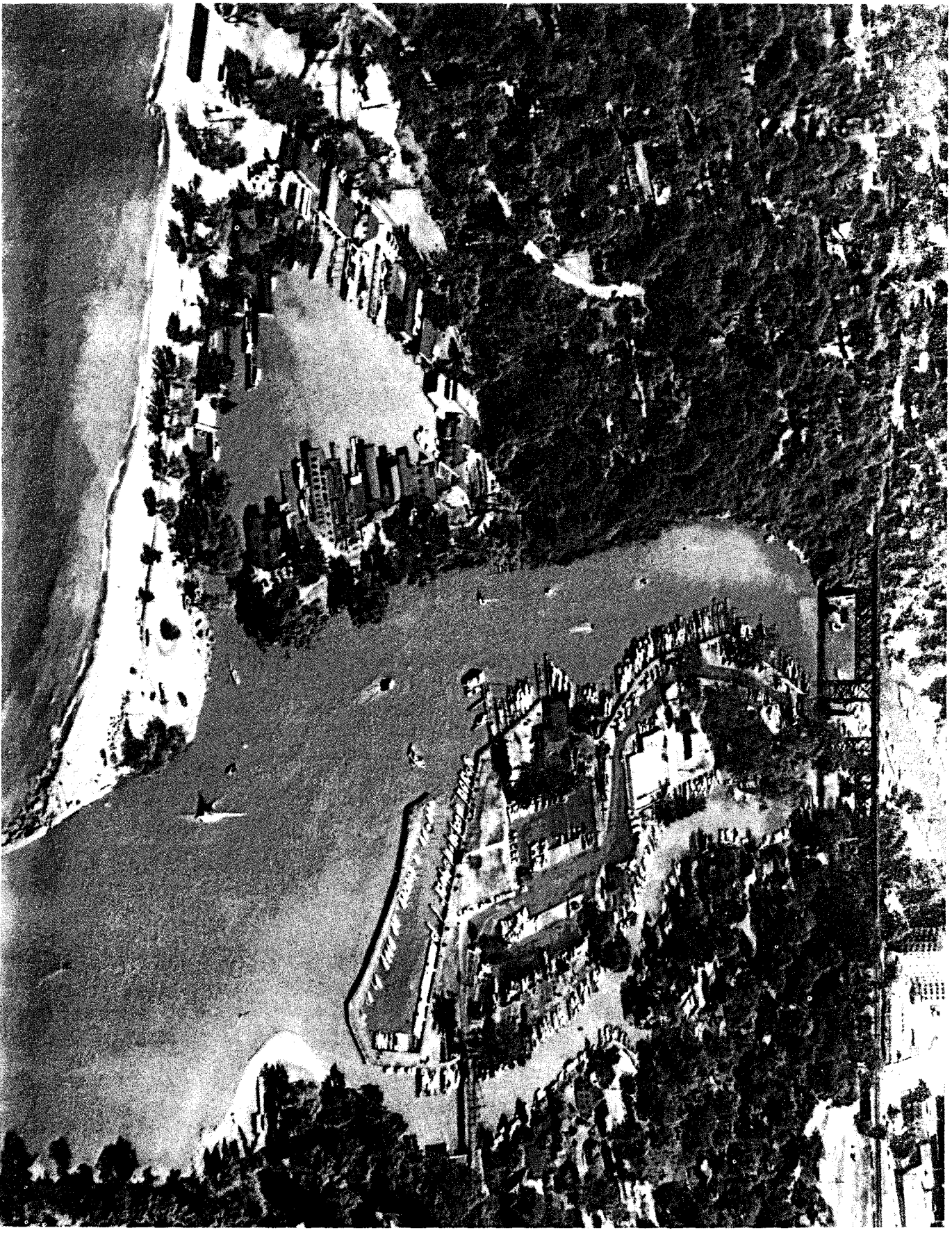
Mr. F. W. Roberts served from 1912 to about 1920. He was succeeded by the following gentlemen: Ralph B. Pettit served from 1920 to 1952; Milton N. Gallup served from 1952 to 1960; and John G. Robinson has served since 1960.

Mr. E. E. Adams served from 1912 until his death in 1937. He was succeeded by John R. Cox from 1937 to 1964. Mr. Cox was succeeded by W. G. Benkleman.

Bonitwo 1907
Champion of Lakewood Yacht
Club and Interlake Yacht Assn.

A tracing from a photograph
courtesy of James T. VanDorn





Clifton Beach and Lagoon

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Edwin K. Wright

CLIFTON PARK TRUSTEES

By 1912 the Clifton Park Land Improvement Company was at the end of its planning and promoting the Park as a residential section. A Trusteeship was formed consisting of five Clifton Park residents.

The Clifton Park Trustees hold in trust for the lot owners the common property of the Park. This property is the Beach, the vacant lots known as Cliff Park (the lots between Dr. Carl Maldonado and Mrs. Cyril P. Deibel) the land at the railroad footbridge, the grassy triangles, Shady Lane and Beach Lane.

The Trustees cannot raise money in any way except to assess lot owners in accordance to tax value of each lot, but not including any building or house value.

The Trustees have no power to sell the common Park property unless 100% consent of the lot owners is given. The Trustees have no police power.

The first Clifton Park Trustees as of March 26, 1912 were: Frank C. Case, Lucien B. Hall, Frank B. Anderson, Frederick A. Glidden and Edgar E. Adams. Trustees serve for life as long as the person is a resident of the Park.

Other Trustees have been, Cleaveland R. Cross, Werner G. Smith, Clayton G. Hale, Chester Newcomb, George E. Guthery, Clayton Quintrell, Charles H. Reed, William D. Gorton, Robert L. Hartford, Harry L. Hoffman, Robert M. Lawther, John S. Ewing, John E. Rupert.

Mr. Pyke adds this pleasant bit of information. "Clayton Quintrell and I both served the Board of Trustees almost twenty years. We were pleased when our associates on the Board presented us with silver trays commemorating our service." Similar trays have been presented to Mr. Reed and Mr. Gorton upon their retirement.

A copy of the Trust Deed is included for the reader who enjoys detail.

TRUST DEED

THE CLIFTON PARK LAND AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY

TO

F. C. CASE, E. E. ADAMS,
LUCIEN B. HALL, F. B. ANDERSON
and F. A. GLIDDEN, Trustees.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD

March 26th at 2:41 o'clock P. M.

Recorded March 27th

In Cuyahoga County Records

Volume 1382 Page 277 to 280

PAUL SCHREINER, Recorder.

TRUST DEED.

Know all Men by these Presents, That The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company, the Grantor, for divers good causes and considerations thereunto moving, and especially in consideration of the covenants and agreements entered into by said Company with the several owners of lots and lands in its allotment herein described, and further for the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) received to its full satisfaction of F. C. Case, Lucien B. Hall, F. A. Glidden, E. E. Adams and F. B. Anderson, Trustees, has given, granted, remised, released and forever quit-claimed and does by these presents absolutely give, grant, remise, release and forever quit-claim unto said grantees, and their successors in trust or assigns, and the survivors or survivor of them, and the heirs of such survivor, forever, all such right and title as the said grantor has or ought to have in the following described pieces and parcels of land, situated in the City of Lakewood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, and being the parts and parcels of land in the grantor's said allotment or lying adjacent thereto which have been reserved for the use and benefit of the owners of land in said allotment, and described as follows, viz.:

1. The three triangular parcels designated as "Reserved M," "Reserved N," and "Reserved O," on the map of the allotment of Clifton Park as the same is recorded in the Map Records of Cuyahoga County, Volume 29, Page 11, reserving, however, to the grantor the right at any time within one year from this date to remove from said parcel marked "Reserved O" the earth and other material piled thereon to a level not lower than the street curb line bounding said parcel; also the shelter house standing in Clifton Road at the entrance to the Park.

2. All that part of Blocks A and B in said Clifton Park allotment above referred to, lying westerly from the 10-foot strip of land through said Block B, which was designated as a right of way connected with the overhead crossing over the tracks of the N. Y. C. & St. L. Railroad, and dedicated by said The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company in a map and dedication of Sloan Subway and other lands, as shown by the plat of said dedication upon the Map Records of Cuyahoga County, Volume 30, Page 7, excepting from said Block A all that portion heretofore conveyed by The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company to The American Construction Company by a deed recorded in Cuyahoga County Records, Volume 1158, Page 598, subject to the right of way for Sloan Subway, as designated on said subway map, in volume 30 of Maps, Page 7, above referred to.

3. The strip of land 8 feet in width extending from Clifton Road to Forest Road between sub lots 116 and 117 and 94 and 95, and between Forest Road and Lake Road between sub lots 75 and 76 and 59 and 60, designated as "Shady Lane—private right of way," on the map of said Clifton Park allotment.

4. A right of way or footpath from Lake Road westerly to the land described herein as Parcel 7, in common with the owners of sub lots 32 and 33, over and across said sub lots as set forth in the grant of said right of way to The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company et al., from Fannie W. Baker and Olive G. W. Wigmore, which is recorded in Cuyahoga County Records, Volume 1198, Page 279.

5. All of sub lots 13 and 14 in said Clifton Park allotment, having a frontage of 200 feet on Lake Ave, and extending back northerly to Lake Erie, as shown by the recorded plat of said allotment in Volume 29 of Maps, Page 11, Cuyahoga County Records.

6. Part of Section number 23 in the Township of Rockport, bounded as follows:

Beginning at an iron pipe set in the northerly line of land conveyed to Franc C. Stowe by deed recorded in Volume 807 of Deeds, Page 127, Cuyahoga County Records, at the intersection thereof with the westerly curved line of Beach Road, a private road 25 feet in width; thence north 69° 36' 30" east along the extension easterly of said northerly line of lands so deeded to Franc C. Stowe, 25.22 feet to a point in the westerly line of sub lot number 37 in The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company's allotment, recorded in Volume 29 of Maps, Page 11, Cuyahoga County Records; thence southerly 91.90 feet along a curved line deflecting to the left and having a radius of 432.45 feet and being the westerly line of sub lots numbers 37 and 38 in said allotment, to a stone monument; thence southeasterly along a curved line deflecting to the left and having a radius of 283.37 feet and being the southwesterly line of sub lots numbers 38 and 39 in said allotment, to the intersection of said curved line with the westerly line of "Reserved Parcel M" in said allotment; then southwesterly along the westerly line of said "Reserved Parcel M" to the most northerly corner of sub lot number 42 in said allotment; thence northerly parallel with and 25 feet distant from the southwesterly line of sub lots numbers 39, 38 and 37, to the place of beginning.

7. Known as being part of Section number 23 in the township of Rockport, bounded as follows:

Beginning at a point in the westerly line of sub lot number 37 in The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company's allotment recorded in Volume 29 of Maps, Page 11, Cuyahoga County Records, where said line is intersected by the extension easterly of the northerly line of land conveyed to Franc C. Stowe, by deed recorded in Volume 807, Page 127, Cuyahoga County Records of deeds; thence northerly along the westerly line of sub lots numbers 37 and 36 in said allotment, 177.16 feet, (being a curved line deflecting to the right and having a radius of 432.45 feet, and a chord which bears north 0° 50' west 175.95 feet) to an iron pipe at a point of reverse curvature; thence northerly along the westerly line of sub lots numbers 36, 34, 33 and 32 in said allotment 465.10 feet (being a curved line deflecting to the left and having a radius of 825.11 feet and a chord which bears north 5° 19' 55" west 458.88 feet) to an iron pipe at the northwesterly corner of said sub lot number 32; thence northerly along the westerly line of sub lot number 31 in said allotment 60.17 feet (being a curved line deflecting to the left and having a radius of 155.72 feet, and a chord which bears north 32° 20' 30" west 59.79 feet) to a gas pipe at an angle in the line of said sub lot number 31; thence north 16° 18' east along the westerly line of said sub lot 77.85 feet to a stone monument; thence north 69° 32' east along the line of said sub lot 20 feet to the southwesterly corner of a parcel of land deeded by The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company to Anna S. Morgan by deed recorded in Volume —, of Deeds, Page —, Cuyahoga County Records; thence north 4° 8' east along the westerly line of lands so deeded to Anna S. Morgan to the water's edge on the shore of Lake Erie; thence westerly along the water's edge on the southerly shore of Lake Erie to the water's edge on the easterly shore of Rocky River; thence southerly along the water's edge on the easterly side of Rocky River to the northerly line of land deeded to Franc C. Stowe as aforesaid from which point a stone monument in the northerly line of said Franc C. Stowe's land bears north 69° 36' 30" east 23.09 feet; thence north 69° 36' 30" east along the northerly line of lands so deeded to Franc C. Stowe 173.09 feet to a stone monument; thence continuing said course along the northerly line of lands so deeded to Franc C. Stowe 100.84 feet, to a stone monument; thence continuing said course along the northerly line of lands so deeded to Franc C. Stowe 109.18 feet to an iron pipe at the intersection of said northerly line of lands so deeded to Franc C. Stowe with the westerly curved line of Beach Road, a private road; thence continuing said course in an extension easterly of the northerly line of lands so deeded to Franc C. Stowe 25.22 feet to the beginning.

But excepting from the above described land a parcel of land described as follows:

Beginning at a stone monument which shall be called the principal place of beginning and which principal place of beginning is found by running the following course; beginning at a stone monument set in the northerly line of land deeded to Franc C. Stowe as aforesaid at a point distant south 69° 36' 30" west 109.18 feet from a gas pipe in the northerly line of land so deeded to Franc C. Stowe at its intersection with the westerly curved line of Beach Road, a private road 25 feet in width; thence north 12° 57' 30" west 209.92 feet to said principal place of beginning; thence south 77° 02' 30" west 12.50 feet to a point; thence southerly and westerly 265.12 feet along a curved line deflecting to the right and having a radius of 155 feet and a chord which bears south 36° 02' 30" west 233.96 feet; thence northwesterly 86.14 feet along a curved line deflecting to the right, having a radius of 97.905 feet and a chord which bears north 69° 45' 7½" west 83.39 feet; thence north 44° 32' 45" west 415 feet to a point; thence south 45° 27' 15" west 71.61 feet to the water's edge on the easterly side of Rocky River; thence north 47° 08' west along the water's edge on the easterly side of Rocky River 111.82 feet; thence north 56° 22' west along the water's edge on the easterly side of Rocky River 112.49 feet; thence north 45° 27' 15" east 252.75 feet to a point from which a stone monument set in the ground bears south 77° 02' 30" west 91.64 feet; thence north 77° 02' 30" east 462.14 feet to a stone monument; thence south 37° 24' 10" east 181.25 feet to a point; thence south 8° 52' 30" east 350.87 feet to a point; thence south 77° 02' 30" west 50 feet to the principal place of beginning.

The above described land known as "Reserved M" and parcels 6 and 7 herein described, are made subject to such rights as have heretofore been granted to The East Ohio Gas Company to extend and maintain its gas supply pipes under a portion thereof; and also subject to the rights given by the grantor herein to The Lakewood Yacht Club Company by an Article of Agreement dated June 1, 1903. Also subject to the rights of owners of lots fronting on the lagoon in the land described as "excepted" from said parcel 7, for themselves and their guests, licensees and employes, to pass over and along the private roads, paths, stairways and common grounds to reach said lagoon from the dedicated roads and avenues in said Clifton Park allotment. Also subject to right of way for owners of land fronting on the private road known as Beach Road.

To Have and to Hold the premises aforesaid, with the appurtenances thereunto belonging unto the said grantees and their successors in trust and assigns, and the survivors or survivor thereof, and the heirs of such survivor, so that neither said grantor, nor its successors, nor any other person claiming title through or under it, shall or will hereafter claim or demand any right or title to the premises, or any part thereof, but they and every one of them shall by these presents be excluded and forever barred; in trust, nevertheless, for the sole use and benefit of all the owners of sub lots, or parts of lots, in the Clifton Park allotment, as the same is recorded in Cuyahoga County Map Records, Volume 29, Page 11, and the heirs, representatives, successors or assigns of such owners; subject to the terms, conditions and regulations herein contained; that is to say:

APPOINTMENT AND TERM OF TRUSTEES.

The trustees shall be five in number, all of whom shall at all times be owners of land and residents in the Clifton Park allotment. If at any time any trustee shall cease to be an owner of land or resident in the Clifton Park allotment, his position as trustee shall at once become vacant, and a successor shall be chosen as herein provided. When the position of any trustee is vacated by resignation, disability or death, the remaining trustees shall at once choose a successor. The fact of such vacancy and choice of successor shall be reduced to writing, signed and acknowledged by a majority of the remaining trustees, and recorded in the office of the County Recorder; whereupon the new trustee shall succeed to all the title and right of his predecessor.

DUTIES OF TRUSTEES.

1. The trustees shall hold title to and preserve all the land deeded to them for the common use of all the lot owners in the Clifton Park allotment, and their successors in title, and members of their households.

2. No part of said land shall be sold, conveyed or dedicated to public use without the unanimous consent of all the lot owners in said allotment.

3. The trustees shall collect money from the persons interested as hereinafter provided, and from the sums so collected, and from any other moneys coming to their hands, shall pay taxes and assessments on said lands as they become payable; shall keep the weeds and grass cut, and trees, shrubbery and flower beds on said lands in good condition; shall provide for removal of snow and ice when necessary; shall keep the bathing pavilion, stairways, private roadways and sidewalks in repair; shall establish regulations for the use of, and provide for proper policing of private roads, lanes, parks and bathing pavilion; and generally ~~maintain~~ maintain all of said property in good order and condition for the use of lot owners in said allotment, as the same is now maintained.

4. If at any time the owners of one-fourth of the lots in said allotment wish for more improvement or embellishment of said common land, or any part of it, than said trustees by the terms of these regulations are bound to make, such lot owners may call a meeting to be held at some convenient place within the boundaries of Clifton Park, of which meeting all lot owners shall have at least ten days' notice by mail or public advertisement. Should a majority of the lot owners present at such meeting decide in favor of any extraordinary improvement of such land for the common benefit, the trustees, upon receiving or being guaranteed the money necessary for that purpose, may proceed to make such improvement, which shall then be a part of the common property, and shall be cared for as herein provided.

5. The trustees shall serve without compensation, but may charge to and collect from the lot owners all their necessary expenses as hereinafter provided.

MAKING AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS.

The cost of all ordinary care of the lands and buildings in the hands of the trustees, and their necessary expenses in carrying out their duties, shall be divided among the several lot owners and collected from them by an annual assessment as follows: Each sub lot, or part of sub lot, in the allotment shall be charged with such proportion of the total annual expense as its value for taxation, exclusive of buildings, is of the total tax value of all of the sub lots in said allotment, exclusive of buildings. The owner of such sub lot, or part of sub lot, shall be bound to pay the sum so assessed to the trustees upon their written notice and demand; and the lien upon the several sub lots reserved to the Company in the deeds of conveyance for the same to secure the payment of such assessments, is transferred to the said trustees, and may be enforced by them. Any extraordinary expenses for improvement of the property shall be met by voluntary subscription.

In Witness Whereof, the said grantor has caused its seal to be affixed hereto, and these presents to be signed by its vice president and secretary, duly authorized by resolution of its board of directors, this 25th day of March, A. D. 1912.

Signed and acknowledged in presence of	}	THE CLIFTON PARK LAND & IMPROVEMENT CO.
J. M. SHALLENBERGER.		L. A. REED, Vice President.
T. H. WILSON.		J. J. CROOKS, Secretary.

STATE OF OHIO, }
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, ss. }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for said County, personally appeared the above named L. A. Reed as vice president, and J. J. Crooks as secretary of The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company, who acknowledged that they executed the foregoing instrument on behalf of said The Clifton Park Land & Improvement Company as such officers, and that the same is their free act and deed as such officers, and the free act and deed of said corporation.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal at Cleveland, Ohio, this 25th day of March, A. D. 1912.

J. M. SHALLENBERGER,
Notary Public.

"OLD GEORGE"

This interview with George Gerlach, written March 24, 1932 by Ralph Izard, appeared in Parade Magazine.

"He sailed the Great Lakes on cargo carrying ships when sail was still the order of the day. His uncle, John Gerlach, owned and operated one of the last fleets of schooners on the Great Lakes, the ships Red Wing, Sun Rise and Sun Bound.

"Old George held every seamans' position except that of master. (George) never knew exact dates. Always said, 'Oh, it was a long time ago - sailors don't remember years, only ships.'

"When the last sailing vessels were taken from the lakes Old George went ashore in disgust. He said, 'Those moving factories they call ships don't need sailors anymore.' For a while, however, Old George commanded the tug Sea Fox for a few years on the Cuyahoga River.

"George and his brother (Henry) opened a fishing business about 1908, using Rocky River as their base of operations. When his brother died, George abandoned the fishing business and lived on the proceeds of the boat livery he maintained in the summer. His needs were few, his life simple; he had his own home, rent free.

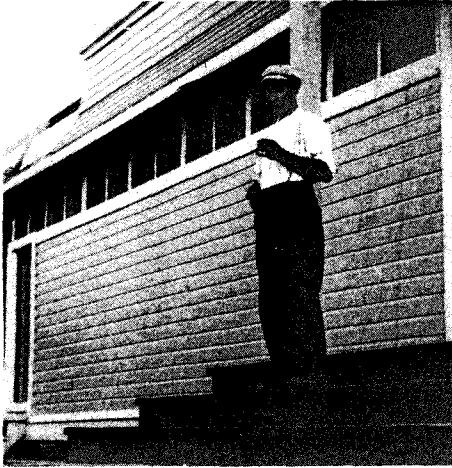
"Mr. C. B. Stowe gave George the property on Rocky River where his house now stands with the understanding that it was to be his as long as he kept it up and wished to stay.

"Before the Lagoon was dredged out, Old George established himself in single comfort in a tiny green and white one-story house in which he still lives. George built it himself, using for the framework the shed that had once housed his rowboats. The house stands at the foot of the cliff atop which is Mr. Stowe's home. It is a quiet place, shaded in summer by the branches of a venerable elm which stands at the river's edge. A pebbly walk leads from the drive which encircles the Lagoon to the doorway. Within that door everything is snug and tidy.

"From 1912, when he first assumed those duties, until the present, he has saved 'somewhere between ten and twenty' people from drowning.

"While busied with small tasks about the grounds he always kept an eye cocked on the bathers, a reassuring figure in the background for anxious mothers. Small boys came to rely on him rather than their busy fathers for their first swimming lessons, and he acquired added lustre in their eyes by knowing how to tie a great many more knots than were ever listed in the Scout manual. He is always ready to whittle out a boat for any youngster who wants one, or to give older boys their first lessons on handling a sloop."

The field of education in which George has earned his greatest fame, however, is in teaching people how to skate.



The Elysium opened in 1907; beginning with 1908, George was the leading skating instructor every year until the present winter. This year, George says, he "just hasn't got around to going over." He and Dudley S. Humphrey, owner of the Elysium and Euclid Beach, became fast friends. The pleasing vogue of marches, waltzes, and two steps in the Elysium music is one of George's ideas.

George built the only ice boat that ever sailed on Rocky River and sailed her every year until she finally went out with the spring ice and vanished in the lake.

Hard winters have always been a delight to George and he loves to be out in them. He used to build bobsleds and give them to the boys in Clifton Park before they put a curve in the hill that made coasting too dangerous. This particular winter has been mild. Old George rose and peered out the open window to where the breakers smashed on the jetty. He took his pipe from his mouth, and spat accurately out the window. "Spring'll be along soon now," he said.

As a youngster I was always impressed with George Gerlach, not only because he taught us kids to sail but that he always had sweetbread and bananas for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

George lived in the little shack at the bottom of the hill which was later Wilbur Wright's residence. George Gerlach was never without a cat or cats.

In some way George came into ownership of an "H" class sailing sloop which he docked in front of Edgar Adams' boathouse on the Lagoon. The sloop was the old Fatima which had a good racing record and many trophies to her credit. It was on this boat that I learned to sail and race, along with help from Rolly Francis.

Rolly owned the "J" class Spook; Ralph Newell had the famous "H" class boat the Hayseed and old Mr. Kendel owned the Latonka; the Pettit boys bought Jim Van Dorn's Banshee; and Frank Jontzen had the "R" boat Elyria, known earlier as the Melba. These are the people and their boats that I remember when I think of George Gerlach.

(Photo courtesy of Martha and Mary Jane Adams)

After Clifton Beach the sailing boat was George Gerlach's great love. Religiously twice a day George would count how many times a sponge would fill with water from the leak in the boat. He liked the boat to leak a little. George claimed leaking kept the wood sweet. There were times when sailing with him that the crew would be knee deep in "sweetness." We would frantically throw water overboard with buckets to keep from going to the bottom!

George got too feeble to sail so he sold the boat to Jim and Stan Kresge. They called the boat the Bonito, raced it for several years, and sold it to Al Edgerton. Al fixed it up and raced it a few years before deciding it wouldn't float anymore. That's the last I heard of the old Bonito. - Frederick P. (Bud) Winkler)

PARK ONE HUNDRED CLUB

The Park One Hundred Club was started in the fall of 1930. The depression years left little money for entertainment. By combining the resources of the young married couples formerly of the Park and the young adults living in the Park, dance programs were printed and a dance club was born.

The guiding hands of the Club belonged to Jim Sprankle, Margaret Treadway and Russell Treadway. From their early efforts grew a very desirable dance club. The keynote was elegance. The men wore their formal dress to fit the season and the women once again could wear their gowns. For a few hours each month the grim depression was forgotten. Fifty couples made up the original group and all dances were held in the ballroom of the old Clifton Club or at the Bathhouse. Committees were formed to decorate the ballroom and orchestras had to be found to fit the pocketbook.

The membership finally became too large for the Clifton Club to accommodate the dance group. Dances were then held in other places, but the gay atmosphere was never quite the same. Later the Park One Hundred Dance Club was renamed the Winterset Dance Club.

The Park-One-Hundred Club

announces

the first dance of the season

at the Clifton Club

Saturday, January 28th, 1933



Music by

Larry Revell's Revellers

Apply to the Secretary
Mr. Ralph F. Briggs
13514 Edgewater Drive

Guest Cards
In-Town guests - - - \$1.75 each
Out-of-town guests - - - \$1.00 each



A job for sidewalk superintendents was the moving of James A. Wigmore's house in 1931. It was called Mt. Vernon and looked almost like its counterpart.

The house stood on two large lots. It was on the present lot at 17870 Lake Road and the adjoining lot at 17874 Lake Road.

A whole architectural firm was engaged to plot every piece of construction in order to set the house together again correctly. The house was moved to Gates Mills, Ohio and stands there today.

Mr. Wigmore has helped add a few interesting facts about the house as it stood in Clifton Park. The living room was 36 x 54' and all other rooms were in proportion. The ceilings were 16 feet high. The ballroom on the third floor was the finest private ballroom in Cleveland. It had seating all around the room and it was the same dimension as the living room. The main staircase was an open circular type which went from basement to the third floor. Mr. Wigmore said that the house was not large for the number of rooms; it was that all the rooms were very large in size. The second floor had four bedrooms and each bedroom had an enormous dressing room.

The house had a fine view of the lake. The basement had a bowling alley, a billiard room plus pool tables. This large room had a fireplace. There was a grill room with a fireplace too. The basement also housed a three car garage.

Why was the house moved? The newspapers of the day teased Mr. Wigmore. Some news captions read, "Horses refuse to go to Wigmore." Another caption said "Wigmore's Folly." Mr. Wigmore was a horseman and his game was polo. He was on the Cleveland Polo Team and the playing grounds were in Gates Mills.

It took five years to reconstruct the house and make additions. At the new site the house was set on a knoll and the new lands totalled 680 acres.

Mr. Arthur Meifert is now the owner of this fine house. However, it is now multiple dwelling. Mr. Meifert said the walls are 22 inches thick. There are seven Italian marble fireplaces all 8 feet wide, and there are seven tiled baths. The living room is now a 5-room apartment. The whole house now holds six apartments of different sizes. The third floor is not used for dwelling as Mr. Meifert does not want to mar the building with a fire escape. The land has been reduced to six acres.

Photo courtesy of Mr. Arthur Meifert

James A. Wigmore was one of the early promoters of Clifton Park. He also helped lay out the Lagoon lots. He said he bought the largest water lot but he never owned a yacht.

During Prohibition there appeared a headline in the newspapers which reached Mr. Wigmore in California. It read something like this - LARGE YACHT SEIZED IN WIGMORE'S BOAT HOUSE. The yacht was filled with Canadian whiskey and the bootleggers had helped themselves to a hiding place in the Lagoon.

Mr. Wigmore had the American Dream. He came to the States from Canada with \$50 and during his lifetime here made a fortune.

From farm boy to grocer; to appraiser for John D. Rockefeller; to negotiator for the Van Sweringen's; land developer and builder. This was the beginning and the career of Mr. Wigmore. He was the man who created the idea of the Terminal Building group on Cleveland's Public Square. Mr. Wigmore built the Statler Hotel and brought the Higbee Company to the Terminal group. He built many Shaker Heights homes during the Van Sweringen reign as he did earlier with Clifton Park.

At the age of 45 years when most sportsmen are reminiscing, Mr. Wigmore learned to play polo. His achievement in this sport was so excellent that he played with and against the top polo teams of the International leagues at Meadowbrook, Long Island. For those who know the great names in polo Mr. Wigmore played with Tommy Hitchcock and Dave Milburn, Jr. A small fortune in silver trophy cups which were won in polo matches has a prominent place in the Wigmore household.

Mr. Wigmore's work made him move among many famous people, but the one person who made the most lasting impression on the memory of Mr. Wigmore was a simple humble country boy with startling truths about us all, Will Rogers.

From an interview with Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wigmore, September 5, 1964.

CLIFTON BEACH IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of the Clifton Beach Improvement Association was at Horace Mann Junior High School, March, 1948. The purpose of the meeting was to explain in detail what the Association hoped to accomplish. Those present were Clifton Park lot owners and Clifton Club members. Copies of the constitution that had previously been drawn were given to all members present.

Here are a few details taken from the Association's constitution:

"Article 2 - The purpose of the Association is to promote the general welfare of the property in the City of Lakewood known as the Clifton Park Beach; to promote, sponsor and encourage the improvement and maintenance of this Beach for the benefit of all owners of property in the Clifton Park allotment and members of the Clifton Club Company; to encourage and promote social activities among the members of the Association; and to do any and all things necessary of incident thereto."

"Article 5 - The Association shall be governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of nine members of the Association." It was set up at the time so that three Trustees would have a one year term, three a two year term and three a three year term. Each year three members would retire and their chairs would be taken over by duly elected Trustees. This creates a rotation system and sets up a program whereby each Trustee serves for three years.

Qualification for Trusteeship as set down at the original meeting was that three Trustees must be Park lot owners, three Clifton Club members and three both lot and Club members. An amendment to this by-law qualification was made in 1958 stating . . . the Nominating Committee can consider people who are Clifton Club and/or Clifton Park residents. This was done because it became difficult to find the combination of both Park resident and Club member.

The Clifton Beach Improvement Association was backed by a Development Fund of about \$70,000 which came from pledges of Park and Club members. The major purpose was the rehabilitation of the Bathhouse and roadway improvement. Since that time of the first meeting in 1948, the Association has had a twofold objective:

1. To continue on a similar scale with periodic capital improvements at the Beach.
2. To develop social programs, drawing Clifton Club and Clifton Park people into central community activities.

The largest single project of the Clifton Beach Improvement Association was the building of the brick Beach House, to replace the old wooden pavilion which was destroyed by fire in 1956. Total cost of this project, raised through voluntary contributions, was nearly \$75,000.

Today the prime source of funds of the Clifton Beach Improvement Association is the Spring Dance held at the Clifton Club.

Other activities which have been annually held are:

1. Children's Fourth of July parade in the Park
2. Family picnics at the Beach on the holidays
3. Beach Clean Up Day
4. Bridge and fashion shows held in the Bathhouse
5. Clambake at the end of the summer season
6. Talent show which star adults or teens.

Information supplied by William Gerber.



THE ROAD AND BRIDGE

Like the rolling in of a thunder storm came the roadway splitting the Park in two.

Back in the 1920's the storm gathered and blew over. Year after year the road and bridge threatened and finally in 1956 definite plans were drawn up and public hearings held to explain the bridge. Law suits, privately and collectively, were thrust back and forth. When the surveyors came walking in to put the doom mark on house, lot and tree; when the money changed hands; when homesteads collapsed under the big shovel; then the road and bridge became real.



To the old resident it was a crime; to the newcomer it was progress; to the youngster it was a delight of dirt to wallow in and equipment to clamber over. One small boy got stuck in a sink hole and no one but the fire department could get him out. For months the tree saws disturbed the peace. All through a deep freeze winter of 1962 the throb of machinery was heard setting the bridge footings in place. No matter if slippery clay and deep sewer trenches divided the Park, small boys and brave adults crossed the no man's land. Daily inspection walks were made by most Park residents.

The formal opening of the bridge was on January 15, 1964. That night the residents from the first entrance of the Park to the ramps in Rocky River discovered another intruder - the lights. Even homes quite removed from the road were bothered by the lights.

The casualty list is greater than we realize. We think in terms of a house being moved or "mortally" wounded, but many portions of property were swallowed by the concrete swath. The State of Ohio paid well but it will never cover the loss of a lifetime of living in a house in a very unique section of the world.

On Clifton Road the F. J. Pfeiffer house at 18098 was moved to 13824 Lake Avenue and sold to new owners. At 18100 Clifton Road the C. C. Kimball house was moved to 18104 Clifton Road and was sold to Philip Astry.

More houses on Clifton Road trembled. The home of Edwin K. Wright at 18114 was the girlhood home of Mrs. Wright. The house at 18116 belonged to W. S. Smith. Originally this was the home of Mrs. E. K. Wright's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Fredric W. Throssell. The Throssell grounds were beautifully landscaped. It had showcase gardens and beyond the gardens was a tennis court. Both of these houses were built within the same year, 1917.

The road cut continued on Clifton Road. The old grassy triangle was taken. At 18127 the J. A. S. Brown house caught fire and was a total loss. The John E. Rupert house was in the path of the road and it was moved from 18125 Clifton Road to 18129 West Clifton Road.

The terrible road cut still rolled - it destroyed the home of the Robert Hartford's at 1111 Forest Road. The girlhood home of Mrs. Donald Harbaugh at 1113 Forest was destroyed. The T. J. McDowell house at 1115 Forest was moved to 1122 Forest Road by Mr. Wallace Snow who had bought it.

The new road crossed the intersection of Forest and West Forest Road forcing another house to find a new location or fall under the big shovel. The John Linns bought the house at 1112 West Forest. This was the home of Roy C. Ossman. The house stood on two lots and was a showplace not only in house design but in beautiful landscaped grounds. Mr. Linn placed the house on a newly created lot at 17893 Lake Road.

The house at 17891 Lake Road was destroyed. This forced the H. Clay Stier family to find another home. Across the road was another fine old home of brick and timber. This house was built in 1905 by Lyman A. Reed. The house number here was 17894 Lake Road.



The childhood home of Bet Fish, 18114 West Clifton Road, was destroyed because it was in the path of the bridge approach. At that time she and her husband, Edwin K. Wright, lived in the house.

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Edwin K. Wright

"Riverbank", at 17894 Lake Road was originally built for L. A. Reed. It stood empty for many years prior to being demolished for the bridge construction, and was known by a generation of Clifton Park children as "the haunted house".



Photo courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Clinton Barry

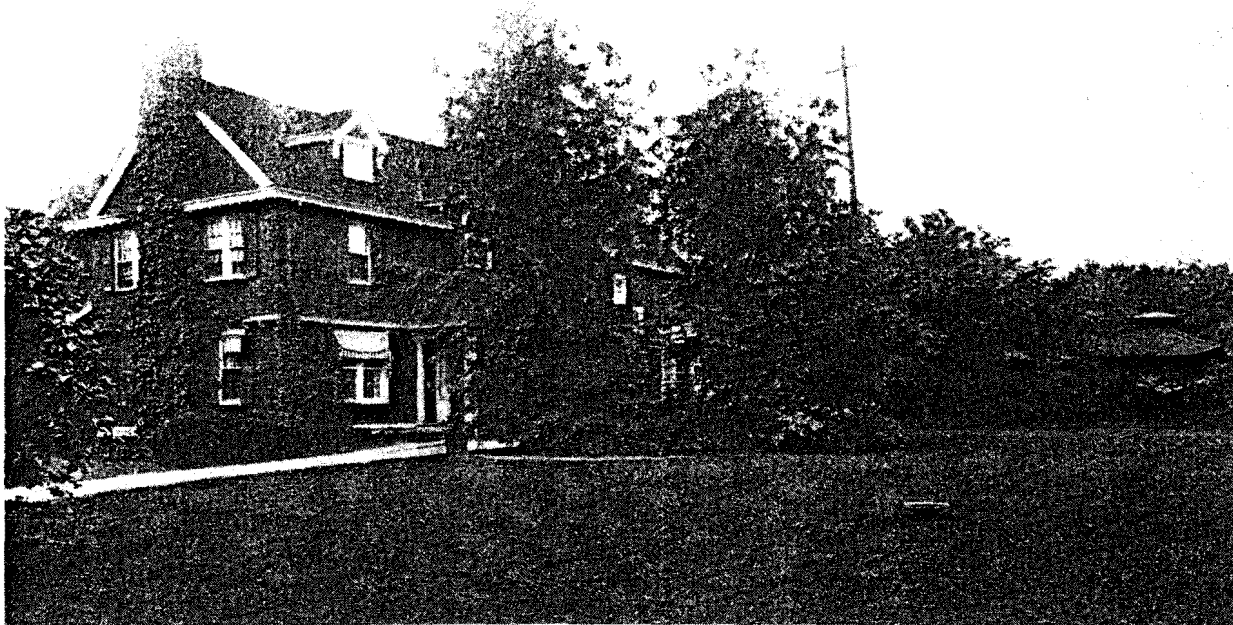


Photo courtesy of Mrs. Donald Harbaugh

These two houses stood side-by-side on Forest Road. Above at 1113 stood the Newell family home. It was occupied in its later years by Margaret Newell Harbaugh, her husband Donald L. Harbaugh and their family. It was in their house that the Lakewood Congregational Church was organized. Below, at 1111 Forest Road was one of the Nilges-built homes owned for many years by the Du Ross family and for the last dozen years by the Robert L. Hartford family. Both houses were razed for the bridge construction.

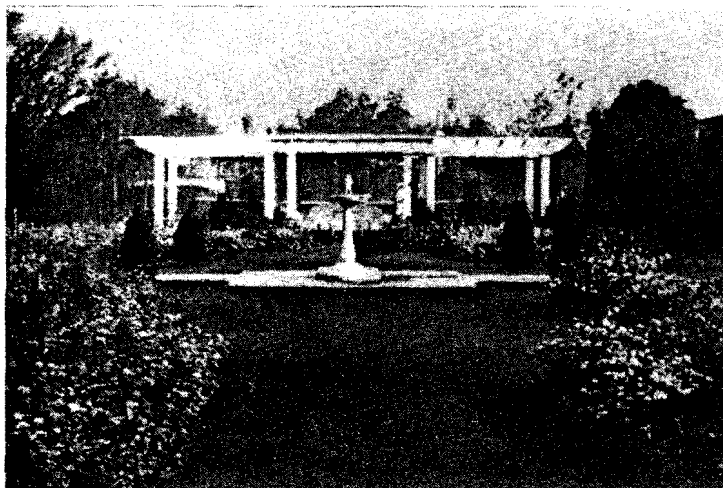


Photo courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Hartford



The home at 17891 Lake Road was built for George W. Cady. The last owner prior to its destruction was H. Clay Stier.

Originally the home of Fredric W. Throssell. This house at 18116 West Clifton Road was owned by Walter Smith before it was razed.



These beautiful gardens stood behind the Throssell house on West Clifton Road.

Photos courtesy of Mrs. E. K. Wright

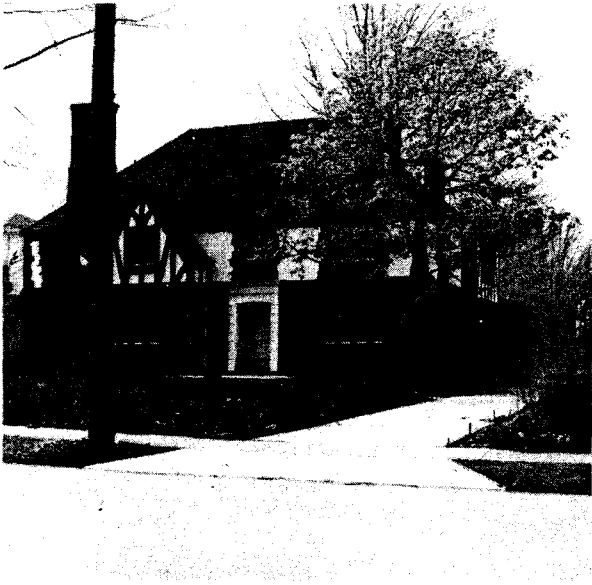


Photo courtesy of C. C. Kimball

These three homes were all moved to new locations within Clifton Park to avoid being torn down. Above, left, at 18100 Clifton Road, the home of C. C. Kimball was moved to 18104 Clifton Road and sold to Philip Astry. John E. Rupert moved his home, (above right) from 18125 Clifton Road to 18129 West Clifton Road. Below, just after being moved to its new site at 1122 Forest Road is the home of Thomas J. McDowell, which formerly stood at 1115 Forest Road.



Photo courtesy of C. H. Reed

Personal recollections of Clifton Park activities must provide a mass of happy thoughts among all people who have ever lived in the Park. Some of these have been captured on paper through interviews with many individuals whose memories go back through the years.

One such individual was Warren K. Roberts. He told us he remembers back to 1899 when he would ride on a buckboard wagon out to Rocky River to go sailing. The road was Lake Avenue which was then a plank road.

Mr. Roberts said that in 1899 there was no Clifton Park, no Lagoon, no Clifton Boulevard; just the Starkweather and Coffinberry houses and the Bathhouse were built. The Yacht Club Island was a fishing station run by the Horn family. The boats were all sail; no power boats. The deep channel in the river was the west channel. A person could wade across to the Island from the east or Lagoon side of the river in those days.

George and Henry Gerlach lived in a cottage which they built with the help and permission of C. B. Stowe. It was Stowe's river edge property they built on. It is now the property of Wilbur Wright. Henry Gerlach was a ship carpenter and the carpenter shop was right here (17856 Beach Road). There was an ice house and a road house on the Beach before 1898.

In 1902 the Lakewood Yacht Club building was put up on the Beach. The Lagoon was dredged in 1912 and allotted by the Clifton Park Land Improvement Company. Boathouses only were permitted. The United States Government (Army Engineers) dredged the river up to the railroad bridge in 1913.

On May 15, 1914 the Cleveland Yacht Club merged with the Lakewood Yacht Club and the Cleveland Clubhouse was moved to the Yacht Club Island.

Philip T. Ranney recalls the pump house cistern at the Beach proved to be a dangerous place for two adventurous boys. Philip Ranney of 1115 Forest and Kenneth Newell of 1113 Forest were playing at the cistern. It was a large well with a cone shaped roof. A door in the roof let one in to a ladder which went down about eight feet to the water. Boards set in the wall made a makeshift runway, about a foot above the water.

Ken and Phil climbed down the ladder to the runway, but Phil stumbled and fell off into the water. With much struggling and ado Ken was able to get Phil back on the plank. Why Ken didn't fall in himself in the process will ever be untold. The plank was only a foot wide and it was not exactly light down there. After that narrow escape the doorway in the roof was boarded up.

It wasn't a Ranney day. Mr. Ranney came down the road from St. Ann's Hospital where Mrs. Ranney was with the newest Ranney arrival, Robert B., Jr. and from Charity Hospital where his daughter, Judith, had undergone emergency surgery for appendicitis; to see Phil coming up West Forest Road looking like a half drowned rat.

Remembering Clifton Park brings George Gerlach to mind for Mrs. William A. Porteous (Lois Saunders). He was the old salt sailor who was the caretaker of the Beach "way back when." He lived in a little white cottage across from the Yacht Club. I recall he was a devil on skates and he always smoked a funny curved pipe.

Coasting down the Beach hill in my Flexible Flyer! This was my pride and joy. Sometimes we made it out onto the lake. Such fun! Once Holly Rose dared me to try skis on old Stowe's hill. I did and practically climbed a tree. This was my first and last offense. Crack the whip on the Lagoon, with Holly in the lead was always good for breath taking. I don't remember where I wound up, but I'm still alive.

Mr. Adams was a friendly father to us all. The good times we had at Adams' boathouse; the stories of Ike Metcalf chopping the ice to go swimming; none of us ever saw him do it. Ike and I would discuss books. He knew good literature. I listened and profited thereby.

I remember Weeno Kendel's daddy sailing around all by himself in his little boat; sailing on the lake and Laurie Jontzen's speed boat was fun too; Harvey the burly lifeguard.

Betty Stone and I played tennis every day on the old outsized court. Crack players were Marian DuRoss (Mrs. Yost) and the Hill twins (Marian Sessions and Margaret Treadway).

I remember the old willow tree at the point. Mr. P. (Porteous) proposed to me there. He forgot to take off his hat until I reminded him!

The old Clifton Club dining room had beautiful French wallpaper. The delicious meals were served by maids in starched white uniforms. Miss Monnel's marvelous creamed potatoes are especially remembered.

The creaky hardwood floors of the Club bring back memories and the huge ball-room where we suffered the dancing class. Our mothers meant well but it was torture. The girls lined up on one side and the boys were on the other side. Eventually we had to meet at the teacher's direction. I recall Ed Sprankle was forever hitching up his brown knee britches. I was so annoyed that I stepped on his feet purposely.

Incidentally, I was married at the old Clifton Club on September, 2, 1933.

Clifton Park is the perfect place for a child to grow up. I am thankful for it. I still know every tree and stone along Shady Lane. Baseball was good fun. We played in the field between Bet Fish's and Sonny Winton's. Walter Gehring was the pitcher and I proudly played first base. We had fun.

In the fall I remember raking leaves and jumping in the big pile. Barb Dean, Betty-Ann Forbes and Jim Forbes used to help us. When the leaves were burned we toasted marshmallows on sticks.

In winter I loved to hitch sled rides around the Park. My father was my favorite driver. I treasure the walks around the little circle and sometime the "mile" which I enjoyed with Dad. He would point out the stars to me. I can still smell the snow of those wonderful winter nights. I miss them here in Louisiana.

I remember Christmas carols on Clifton Road. Our leader was Mr. Bill Forbes. I always felt we outdid Forest Road thanks to Mr. Forbes' lusty bass voice. We all sang to the top of our lungs to give him support. We knew we had a prize singer who deserved accompaniment. In our house the carols were always happily followed with an apple, a cup of hot chocolate and a bit of Dickens' Christmas Carol before the fire; then off to bed.

On Halloween we kids always made it a point to perch Henry Stecher's porch chairs on top of the road sign posts; Mrs. Bleil's windows were thoroughly soaped because she was such a "neat but neat" housekeeper. I recall that was Gene Frick's idea.

I have given you memories of a very happy childhood which I cherish deeply.

Mrs. Edwin Lehr (Muriel Hoffman) told us, "My twin sister, Carol, and I would paddle our canoe way out in the lake before sunset on summer evenings and we would drift slowly into shore as the sun set.

"I remember walking to the beach through moonlit Shady Lane one warm October and sitting out on the end of the rock pier just watching the moon on the water. One moonlight night we were sailing and got stuck on a sandbar in the river. We didn't get free of the sandbar until 3:00 a. m. I recall swimming out to the rock bar where the water was only knee deep - and on rough water days riding the waves off the bar into deep water. On our annual summer mile swim, Harvey Reynolds would row us out to the mile buoy off the river channel, and we would swim in to the beach with Harvey following in his boat.

"I remember pinch-hitting for my brother, Harry Hoffman, while he was in the ski troops in World War II. At this time girls were hired as lifeguards because the boys were all drafted. Mr. Paine and his fireworks at the point on the Fourth of July - he lit the 'crackers with a long stick and then ran like mad.

"I remember the night Jim Sprankle called for my twin sister to go to the Park One Hundred dance. Jim took one look at Carol's long white dress and he drove home to get a sheet to spread on the floor of his car before he would let her ride to the dance.

"We loved to walk to the beach through Shady Lane - we never drove down to the beach. And going down at 10:00 or 11:00 p. m. on a hot night and then going right home to bed was a special treat."

Mrs. C. E. Kendel recalled that when her husband, C. E. Kendel, was a young man he was assistant Sunday School Superintendent at Plymouth Congregational Church at Prospect and East 22nd Street, Cleveland. The annual Sunday School picnic was always held in the picnic grove at the mouth of Rocky River (now Clifton Park). The school went out by boat which was docked under the Detroit, Rocky River Bridge or on a narrow gauge railroad which ran from East Cleveland to Rocky River (there were transfer points to the different little railroad companies.)

A corporation of westside men bought this section for the erection of summer homes. A high board fence was built around this area to prevent anymore picnic groups from entering. Mr. Kendel knew the head engineer who was directing the construction of the fence and upon request was given a pass which read, "Admit Mr. C. E. Kendel to Clifton Park." This slip was later framed and it always stood on the mantle shelf in the living room at 1109 Forest Road until the house was sold in 1962.

C. Edward Kendel was in the retail seed business which was established in 1839. Kendel's Seed Store was in the old cluster of buildings now occupied by the Terminal Tower and its group of buildings. Mr. Kendel was the first Secretary of the American Seed Trade Association. He held this position most of his business life.

Mr. Kendel was an enthusiastic hobbyist. He pursued his pastimes of sailing, gardening, beekeeping, hunting, fishing and hiking with great zest. It was only because of tolerant, understanding neighbors that beekeeping continued to be one of his hobbies.

Mr. Kendel was a gentle person, quiet, affectionate, appreciative. He had a strong faith in God. He was extremely conservative.

Clifton Beach was the special reason and attraction that made the Kendels choose Clifton Park. The three sons, Charles 12 years, William 8 years, and Edward 4 years, could enjoy the swimming and later the boating.

William and Edward went to the Beach every morning carrying bathing suits, towel and a lunch basket. It was a full day for the boys. Two swimming periods, rowing the boat, tennis, and baseball. On rainy days there were indoor games in the Bathhouse. When Harvey Reynolds, the lifeguard, left the Beach at the end of the day's work, the Kendel boys returned home.

Harvey used to fill the rowboat with little girls, 8 and 9 years old. He would then row out a short distance and at a signal the girls would jump in the water. Trailing from the boat were ropes, one for each girl. They could grasp their rope and float or swim the few strokes they knew in perfect safety. After the fun of this they were towed back to shore.

Mrs. Kendel remembers her neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Newell, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Church, who urged the Kendels to build in the Park; and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baker and their costly vegetable garden enjoyed by Park wildlife.

An interesting feature of the life of the children in Clifton Park was the informal gatherings at the triangle made by Forest and West Forest Roads. Baseball was a regular game and the boy who brought a ball or a catcher's mitt was the important person that night. Older as well as younger boys lined up to bat. Girls also joined in the games. Later when auto traffic made the triangle unsafe, the games were played at the Beach where a good diamond had been laid out. Much later an annual baseball game between fathers and children was played on Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. The players were the neighbors on Forest and West Forest Road. Following the game picnic dinners were served at either the Robert Hartford's or the William Folberth's.

Lloyd McCartney recalls that the streets in Clifton Park in 1903 had gas lamps and there were rough boards for sidewalks. The Stowe, Case, and Jennings families had horses with rigs and carriages. The streets of the Park were filled in with gravel and beach stones. Over many years there was trouble between the few auto owners and those who used horses as to which cut up the roads the most.

"My father was unable to drive his horse and carriage to his office because of the time involved. So for several years the horse was stabled in Rocky River. The Cases and Jennings had their barns next to the railroad.

"The Clifton Club was built around 1903. Clambakes were held each September. It was a small club with limited membership. I took dancing lessons from a Miss Root at the Club when I was a teenager. The Club had one tennis court. The Club featured Saturday night dances. Later membership included others and also included Clifton Beach privileges to non-residents.

"Few autos were in evidence until 1908. The Clifton Boulevard trolley cars entered the picture about the time my father moved to Clifton Park (1902.) Friends of the family who came to visit were told to get off at the first entrance at Clifton Boulevard or at the second entrance on Sloane Avenue and walk north over the planks adjoining the dirt road and cross over the single track of the railroad.

"Mr. Finch moved into the old house at the railroad tracks in 1908. The house was a wreck for many years. He did a splendid job of clearing the Park roads with horse and snow plow.

"The C. H. Church house on West Clifton Road (18131) was originally one-third the size it is today. The Hoehn's had horses and a large barn. Mr. Hoehn made a new handle for flat irons. This was before electric irons were in use.

"My father sold the rear end of his lot to F. C. Case to make room for his four car garage. Mr. and Mrs. Case owned the lot west of my father's lot and house and for many years we had a beautiful flower garden and vegetable garden beside us. The gardens were expertly maintained by the Case family.

"We had gas lights in the house which we used frequently as the electric current and the water had a way of going off. Groceries were not a problem as Chandler and Rudd had a salesman who came out and took our order for once a week delivery. We had two telephones, Bell and Cuyahoga Telephone."

Warren Root, Gaylord Stowe, Horace Newell and the Clarke boys were a few of the boys in the early days. Later Johnnie Woods, the Hunkin boy, Krause boys, Gresham boy and Paul Matthews arrived.

Mr. George Fish was one of the early home owners. Mr. Fish operated a clothing store on Euclid Avenue just east of the Williamson Building.

In 1913 when you drove an auto you used four tire chains on many days in the winter and you followed the ruts.

The Lake Shore Electric Interurban was one of the popular means of transportation for many years. The men could smoke and play cards in the front smoker. Mr. Rodier, Mr. Ranney, Mr. L. A. Reed and others had many pleasant rides to town. Later, about 1910, Mr. Rodier bought an auto and he picked up my father each morning. Mr. Rodier's auto had two bodies. The one for summer had an open top. The one for winter was closed.

In 1913 my father bought his first car. The sales mechanic came out to install the electric starter. This was the end of the horse and wagon days and the old times.

The break up of Clifton Park began when the east side of Cleveland offered more entertainment. By 1930 the lake was too dirty for swimming.

When the Root family came to Clifton Park in 1904, the pumping station on the beach still had machinery in it. Mr. Root remembers seeing all the gears and wheels. It was an interesting place to explore. Mr. Root also remembers the wooden pilings of the old pier going far out into the lake. This ties in with Mr. Singleton's remark at the beginning of the story . . . "We came to the old pier in a small pleasure boat."

Mr. Root remembers Mr. A. B. Smythe who was a realtor and lived at 18144 Clifton Road. Mr. Smythe was a dynamic person; a marvelous individual. Mr. Betz lived at 18147 Clifton Road and taught Sunday School at Lakewood Congregational Church. Mr. Clarke lived at 18149 Clifton Road and he was in the woolen cloth business.

George Gerlach comes to Mr. Root's thoughts. George kept his shack in tip top shape. The beds were bunk beds and all the necessary equipment was put away in cupboards and closets. The little shack was sea worthy and neat.

Another Park person Mr. Root remembers is Mr. Hoehn. Mr. Hoehn had an invention of interchangeable flat iron handles. The removable handle idea speeded the ironing chore. Often times the assembling of these handles would be done in the barn on the Hoehn property and as a child Mr. Root would often watch this procedure. Mr. Hoehn had a six cylinder Winton auto. It had a compressed air starter. Mr. Hoehn announced he wanted to sell the auto for \$2000; he also announced that the price would be reduced \$100 a day. So everybody waited!

Years ago the present footbridge was originally a grade crossing over the old Nickel Plate tracks. This arrangement permitted wagons and carriages to pass over. After the footbridge was built there was no passageway for wagons anymore. This problem was eventually solved by creating the underpass under the old Nickel Plate trestle. The underpass, curiously, is officially known as Scenic Subway. This road was engineered by Mr. Charles W. Root, father of Warren J. The original road was paved with cobblestones. This material helped the horses keep their footing when going up and down the hill. (Too bad the pass is paved with asphalt, it is not picturesque anymore. The cobblestones gave an old world touch especially on rainy nights when they glistened in the half light.)

Mr. Root tells how early Clifton Park roads were lighted with gas lamps. A lamplighter came at dusk in a dog cart style wagon drawn by a pony or small horse. The lamps would be cleaned and lighted by the lamplighter.

When Mr. Root was of high school age he built a wireless telegraph transmitter. A friend and neighbor, Mr. Walter Baker, heard strange noises on his receiving set. Mr. Baker found that Warren Root's sending set was causing the strange noises. Mr. Baker asked many questions about the set as he was interested in all useful mechanical devices. At times Mr. Baker would bring home experimental models of his electric car and show them to the neighbors, and sometimes demonstrate them.

Mrs. Donald Harbaugh (Margaret Newell) in an interview said that long before she was born at the Forest Road house her parents would rent the old Pumphrey farmhouse for summer vacations. The farmhouse still stands on the inner elbow of Arlington Road, 1270, adjacent to the Park.

The whole section of Arlington and Overlook Roads was once a fruit farm. The two small houses tucked into the corner near the railroad were tenant farm dwellings.

The Newell home at 1113 Forest Road was built in 1901. While the house was being built the Newells rented the house at 1116 Forest (now the Frank Gormans). Margaret's parents were eastside people and when it became positive that the Newells would be country folk in Clifton Park, the problem of church arose. There were other eastside people coming to the Park and to Rockport Township. A group of Plymouth Congregational Church members were made welcome at the Newell home for prayer meetings many times. The Newell home was the place where the new Lakewood Congregational Church charter was signed.

Margaret remembers her brother Ken and his pal Phil Ranney making water bicycles. These were made from old bike frames and empty syrup drums for floats. The boys would pedal up and down the lake and over to the Yacht Club.

Margaret's mother conducted dancing classes in their ballroom and Margaret's father, C. E. Newell, was one of Lakewood's first councilmen.

Walter Gehring remembers the great baseball games played in the Park. The teams were Clifton Road and Lake Road against Forest Road. The status rivalry of those days was that Forest Road felt that they were the heart of the Park and that the Clifton-Lake was considered the fringe group. It was like two separate little towns. Forest Road had a home field at the Forest-West Forest fork and the Clifton-Lake home field was the site of the Philip Astry house at 18104 Clifton Road.

In the 1930's the young men in the Park would have a baseball game on Sunday mornings throughout the summer and early fall at the Beach diamond.

Walter established a pocket billiards league which originated on the third floor of his home at 18167 Clifton Road. Thirty-three boys were in the league. The finalists played at the Clifton Club. From a notebook dated 1925 are the billiard champs - Fred Squires, Stanley Jones, Glenwood Tammen, Walter Gehring, Ellis Minner, Platt Frick, Richard Marrow, Willard Foster. These boys were all Lakewood High School athletes and so was one whose name is not among the billiard finalists. He was a star in any game but billiards. His name? (the needle from Gehring) Frank Jontzen!

The Clifton Club had dances at Christmas and all animosity of baseball games, etc. was forgotten. There were caroling groups in the Park. They always caroled on Christmas Eve. After the caroling all would meet at the Clifton Club for hot chocolate.

Walter remembers the diving platform in the water at the Beach. The big adventure was to swim to the rock bar and further out was the sandbar. Another memory was swimming to the Yacht Club from Gerlach's pier.

Dances on the upper deck of the Bathhouse were always open to all the residents of the Park.

For a time during the 1930's Guy Lombardo held forth at the Yacht Club. His music wafted across the channel and up the hill. Some liked it and some complained about the rowdy music.

Who could forget the Cherry boys? They had their own orchestra and one, Babe, played in Charlie Barnett's orchestra.

For 20 years during the 1920's and 1930's Mr. Donald Paine was the Beach guard. He was the head of the Spanish department at Lakewood High. There was also a Clifton Park policeman who wore a police uniform and carried a billy club. Even though he was crippled he walked all through the Park as many times as he could at night.

There is the memory of hockey games and ice skating meets on the frozen Lagoon. An empty boathouse was used to change into skates. There was tobogganing down Beach Road and skiing down the slopes of Beach Road hill onto Lagoon property.

Mrs. Edwin K. Wright (Bet Fish) remembers that the Bernice Pyke political meeting held in the Republican stronghold of Clifton Park caused mischief among the Park children. The night the meeting was held was Halloween. The meeting place was at the Berry home (18117 Clifton Road). Mrs. Pyke was the Democratic choice for mayor of Lakewood and Mr. Louis Hill was the Republican choice for mayor. The kids of the Park whooped and screamed for Mr. Hill while the meeting was being held; and Republican placards were put on the cars parked in the area.

Clifton Park in her girlhood abounded with violets and wildflowers, which made quite professional looking corsages for Mother's Day. The Park had many fine hiding places when the game of hide and seek was played. Fireworks on the Fourth of July brought everyone to the Beach to watch the display. Older boys were thrilled to help the men set the fireworks off. This was done at the Beach point. There was always a large group of spectators at the Clifton Club on this occasion.

Mr. E. E. Adams was always interested in children and he was kept busy organizing gay parties for them at the Clifton Club. There were dances for adults on every holiday at the Club. Twilight musicales were offered every Sunday afternoon. All the young people attended as it was the place to meet everyone.

Miss Helene Steinbach's piano recitals were held at the Kendel home (now Larsen, 1109 Forest) and at Wilson's (now Hartford, 1103 West Forest). Walter Gehring's boxing match for the little kids of the Park was a summer highlight one year. Ike Metcalf was the first in the lake in the early spring and the last out of the lake in the late fall. Now Ike's nephew, Henry Metcalf, carries on the tradition.

The yacht Mahapa was a beautiful boat and the largest. The name came from the first two letters of the owner's name, Mabel Hanna Parsons. The Kettering yacht was another large craft. It would anchor off shore. The Kettering family lived at 18180 Clifton Road (J. M. Byrns) and later at 17897 Lake Road (Dr. C. E. Mulligan). Now the Ketterings live in Dayton, Ohio. He is the son of "Boss" Kettering, the inventor.

The memory of Clifton Beach always brings George Gerlach to mind. George was an old sailor who was the caretaker of the Beach. He taught the kids to swim and to sail a boat. In the winter George taught ice skating at the Elysium.

Other Park memories . . . Harvey Reynolds was a long distance swimmer and life-guard at the Beach; coasting on the Beach hill before everyone had an auto; ice skating on the Lagoon and on the lake one year near the rock bar; swimming out to the rock bar; the ropes for guiding swimmers stretched from posts out to a diving platform. They were put out every year.

More memories . . . the long slide with the big jump at the end; singing around driftwood fires on the Beach at night. We built our own fireplaces with the beach stones and we gathered our own firewood. One never had to reserve a table, except on July 4th. We just went down early and put our name on a table. The Beach Road originally went past the Bathhouse on the right side, and it was always called the "bathhouse."

A sensational Halloween prank one year was to let out the air from all the tires of the autos parked at the Clifton Club. It was later discovered that the fire department was called to help pump up the many tires!

THE BOXING MATCH

CLIFTON PARK BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP

Tuesday, August 18, 1931

8 p.m. 10¢ Admission

Gehring's Backyard

THE CARD

FLYWEIGHTS

PEE WEE (JIM) REDDY, The SLASHING HORNET of
Upper West Clifton Road

vs

MIDGET (DICK) SMITH, The Lower Clifton Road WASP

LIGHTWEIGHTS

BATTLING (BOB) McDONOUGH, The Lightweight
TERROR from the "Flats"

vs

SNARLING (DICK) WINKLER, The DEADEYE SLAPPER
of the "Eastside"

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

MICKEY (BILL)himself McDONOUGH, That TERRIFIC
BONE BASHER

vs

TWO FISTED (WES) WINKLER, Forest Road's
PULVERIZING UPRISER

HEAVYWEIGHTS

DYNAMITE (GEORGE) FRY, The Lake Avenue
EXPLOSION

vs

LEFT JAB (JIM) WINKLER, The "Westside" LION
TAMER.

Remember the ring and arc lights? The kid brother (Don Gehring) built our extensive advertising and build up. The huge crowd and the sensational success of the show. The police raid prompted by "kind" neighbors who insisted the Gehring kid was actually promoting a brutal professional spectacle!

It is rumored the police stayed to watch.

BITS AND PIECES

Miss Clara Benes remembers carrying a lantern from her home at 17881 Lake Road through the Park and over the old Nickel Plate tracks to the trolley stop on Sloane Avenue. This was standard equipment after dark for theatre goers and music lovers.

Just for a moment project yourself back to 1903-04 and picture the sight of a lantern floating knee high to someone whom the black night blots out. It must have been an eerie feeling, yet a picturesque sight after the fear wore off.

Mr. Hans Penndorf recalls what his mother, Charlotte Knoll Penndorf told him - how cows were lead down to the Beach each day to be watered at the Lake's edge.

Muriel Hoffman Lehr remembers the tennis court was once right in back of the old Bathhouse. The tennis court was moved because one year the lake washed some footings on the Bathhouse and the water stayed too near the building. The Bathhouse was moved back which meant the loss of the tennis court at that location.

Muriel helped decorate the old Clifton Club ballroom for the Park One Hundred dances. Muriel mentions a dance which had an Easter theme of huge bunnies.

When Muriel was of high school age she and other Clifton Park girls were asked to serve at a lawn party given by Mr. and Mrs. Wigmore. This was a social highlight for that summer

Jim Sprankle tells about a Halloween prank when he was a boy. A wagon (horse drawn) was hauled up to H. W. Stecher's house at 18139 West Clifton Road and the wagon was wedged between the pillars on the front porch. Mr. Stecher was always a quiet and composed man, but not after seeing that prank. It took some hard work to get the wagon free.

The Donald Harbaughs tend a garden through the summer and garland a tree at Christmas on the remaining portion of their Clifton Park lot. This is in memory of their house and their life in the Park - 61 years of memories.

Certainly a big part of the charm of Clifton Park lies in the wide range of architecture used in the homes of its people. The size runs from small converted coach houses to mansions of many rooms. Some of the largest homes have now been razed, reflecting the modern servantless way of life. Nearly all of the older homes were built to be operated by servants, and contain special quarters for domestics as well as call bells and signals.

In many cases, the houses reflect the tastes of their original owners. Some of them have been altered to conform to the needs of later owners, others retain their original lines.

These homes and the people who lived in them made history in the Greater Cleveland scene. We have assembled some descriptions and pictures of a few of the houses, put them together in a random assortment with brief sketches of some of the people who built not only the houses but the reputation of Clifton Park as an outstanding place for living.

Although much of the information gathered here represents the people and the activities of the past, leaders in industry, the professions and civic affairs continue to make their homes here, raise their families, and participate in the community life of Clifton Park.

In the house descriptions we have listed the name of the original owner and the owner as of 1970. By poring over the old, dusty plat books we have compiled a list of the known owners of these homes.

17802 Lake Road

Timothy F. McDonald

17818 Lake Road

Otto and Nelle P. Leopold
Harry and Beatrice Kranz
Gregory DeVine
Leo Engasser
Alan J. Jr. and Barbara Diemer

17825 Lake Road

Stanley Kresge
Louis B. Seltzer
Anthony J. Celebreeze

17831 Lake Road

M. A. Gresham
Kent and Elinor E. Bacon
Lloyd and Kay Riegler

17834 Lake Road

James and Clara Woods
Charles and Evelyn Seelbach
William A. and Susan Minnich

17835 Lake Road

Frank B. Anderson
Clarence and Frances Seaman

17836 Lake Road

Robert B. Wallace
James and Elizabeth Mathers
Thomas and Agnes Nevison
Ralph and Bonnie Walton
Clement T. and Marie Loshing

17840 Lake Road

Frederick A. Glidden
Edwin I. Heinsohn
Roy B. Robinette
William and Barbara Thewes
James Groth

17840 Lake Road, continued

Wade Canfield
 William and Elizabeth LaRiche
 Arthur Bates

17844 Lake Road

F. G. Fish
 James R. and Josephine H. Sprankle
 Frederick A. and Consuelo Glidden
 Chester and Laura Newcomb
 Richard Mueller

17848 Lake Road

Paul and Margaret North
 Catherine Komarek
 H. Clay and Margaret Stier
 William H. Stanley

17852 Lake Road

Charles H. Reed

17853 Lake Road

Charles and Flora L. Root
 Vern and Lillian Smith
 W. B. and F. R. Smith
 Stephen J. and R. A. Burgyan

17855 Lake Road

Alfred A. Horr
 Lucy J. Roberts
 F. W. and W. K. Roberts
 James T. Collins
 Ruth E. Tisdall
 Eleanor Pearce
 George E. Ewing
 James Loughran

17856 Lake Road

Stephen and Kitty Peirce
 Werner and Frances Smith

17859 Lake Road

Frank and Alice McCartney
 Augusta Force

17859 Lake Road, continued

R. M. and Helen Fowler
 J. B. and Leila Faxon
 J. Kenneth Wasley

17860 Lake Road

Frank C. Case
 George S. Case
 Albert Case
 Martha Gentsch
 Adolph Mellar
 Theodore and Virginia Brooks
 Richard R. and J. Endress

17862 Lake Road

John G. Jennings
 Elizabeth Born Irwin
 Margaret D. Lawrence
 Hilda L. Smith
 John and Ethel Bibbs

17863 Lake Road

Jesse Roberts
 Rosella Lewis Judd
 Elma B. Pyke
 Henry and Ruth Hunczak

17864 Lake Road

Lucien B. Hall
 Amy H. Case
 Katherine Laub
 Richard and Marion Bell
 Charles W. York

17866 Lake Road

Leafie Starkweather
 T. R. Morgan
 Charles Arter
 A. B. Smythe
 Esther Kling
 Anna C. Cunningham
 John R. Raible
 Frank and Esther Gilbert
 Freeland Realty Co. (Lake Point Drive
 allotment)

17869 Lake Road

Francis H. Glidden
Joy, Emily and Gertrude Glidden
Eugene and Beatrice Quigley
George and Virginia Foley

17873 Lake Road

Julius H. D. Rodier
Clyde T. Foster

17877 Lake Road

Mrs. Herman Mueller
Carl Mueller
Mrs. Emily L. Mueller
Neville C. and Mary Foster
Edward R. and Elvira Sharp

17879 Lake Road

Leafie Starkweather
Anna S. Lucas
Genevieve Rickenbach
Margaret F. Smith
S. W. and Frances Reeder
Georgianna R. Fredrichs
James Carter

17880 Lake Road

George P. McKay
Bertha K. Cherna
Leonard C. Fisher
Merrill and Marydell Wood
Olga Kold
Marian R. Shell

17893 Lake Road

Cleaveland R. Cross
Roy and Josephine Ossman
John and Barbara Linn

17895 Lake Road

Charles A. Myers
Edythe Ebright
Glenn and Priscilla Barth

17896 Lake Road

Jane Eliza Coulby
Harry Coulby
E. E. Stone
James Easley
Frank J. Jontzen
Joseph H. Dearborn
Robert Vitt (Coulby Square realloiment)

18093 Clifton Road

Frank A. and Gertrude Mehling
Dual L. Simmons
D. Rusk and Ruth Haverfield
Arthur F. Young

18096 Clifton Road

Fred W. Roberts
Elsie H. Seager
Charles and Rhode Holden
F. and Helena McDonald
Rev. L. Wilson Kilgore (Lakewood
Presbyterian Church)
Robert Walker

18102 Clifton Road

Alexander Winton
Mary G. McIntyre
Clark C. and Grace Kimball

18121 Clifton Road

James P. McKinstry
Katherine Parke
Milton Jay Parke
Jean A. Attack
H. B. and Emmy Wentz
Robert and Shirley Bowers

17830 Beach Road

Alexander Winton
George Codrington
Wilma Gleitz
Vernon Stouffer

17855 Beach Road

Franc C. Stowe
Robert Gardner
Orlin Anderson
Frances Wright

17886 Beach Road

Fred C. Dorn
Margaret G. Ranney
Carl and Dorothea Smalheer
Joseph C. and Patricia Avellone

17890 Beach Road

Harry and Mabel Hanna Parsons
Mary Kershaw
Bern and Marie Mueller
Conrad B. Mueller
Rene J. and Anne Morel

18127 West Clifton Road

John H. Anderson

18131 West Clifton Road

Julia W. Church
Olive G. Wills Wigmore
Fannie W. Baker
George and Barbara Guthery
Edward and Ruth Skiba
Robert and Beverly Scott

18139 West Clifton Road

Henry W. Stecher
James and Marion Covey
Henry Mc. Haserot
Bonnie Haserot
E. L. and Jane Conry
Leonard and Jane Bills



This house is the inspiration of Mrs. McDonald and technically carried out by Mr. Robert Groth, builder. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald have lived many years in older homes in Clifton Park. This gem of a house is the lump sum of all the good details of the earlier McDonald homes and all the seasoned ideas of Mrs. McDonald.

The front entry outer wall is of bottle glass. The floor of the inner entry is random slate. No problem with wet feet here. The living room has the wide open simple lines of the

contemporary thought, yet warmth is maintained with the use of a beamed ceiling. At the far end of the living room is a large window that spans from floor to ceiling. This lifts the room out of itself because beyond is the lake. The ceiling at this end of the room follows the shed roof line of the exterior.

The fireplace is on a large rough sandstone wall. The hearth is raised on a smooth sandstone slab. The library has a view of the lake. It is a compact, workable and comfortable room. The woodwork here and through the house is mahogany. The quiet side of the house is all on one wing and the busy living room is on the other side or wing. It is a wonderful floor plan.

The kitchen is the latest word in ideas. It is a good working kitchen. The breakfast room looks out on a rear garden and the moody lake. All that is necessary for vital living is on the first floor with two bedrooms, laundry room, incinerator and water heater. There is no opportunity for clutter in this house. Mr. Groth, the builder, has used sliding doors on cupboard openings and closet doors. He has used all available recesses for storage. Storage space has all been finished off, no raw building "innards" are showing.

The second floor has two bedrooms, a full bath and storage space. The ceiling line again follows the shed roof line.

To quote Mr. McDonald, "the house has been designed and built for convenience and ease."

Otto Leopold/Alan J. Diemer, Jr. - 17818 Lake Road - Built in the 1920's

The exterior eye catcher is the two story window of leaded glass. The window is one of the highlights of the living room. Balancing the beautiful window is a stone carved fireplace with a breasted chimney piece. The wall treatment in the room is stucco rendered in large upward scoops which draws attention to the vaulted ceiling. A second floor gallery runs above the fireplace wall and along one side of the room. There is a window seat under the great window and the eye also sees



the graceful tudor arches and their glass doors to match. Off the living room is the solarium. It has a handmade tile floor. The windows are really doors going from floor to ceiling. These are leaded glass. The ceiling is vaulted like the living room and there is a fountain which works.

At the rear of the living room is the library in the traditional sense; with hand carved paneling in Circassian walnut. The ceiling has entwining medallions in relief. The fireplace is simple but elegant and stands between book shelves. It is said that all the woodwork in the library is registered millwork from London.

The dining room and morning room have views of the lake. The morning room has oak paneling, casement windows and a built-in open breakfront.

Up the circular staircase, which has fine hand carved detail and a lovely leaded window on the first landing. From the gallery hallway there is a view of the living room, solarium, and a glimpse of the library.

The architectural charm of the house is in the windows. The master bedroom and one other bedroom have the tudor arch spanning at least three windows and beneath them a window seat. The bedrooms including the third floor number eight. Detail and material has not wearied or lessened even to the servants' rooms. The same fine workmanship is found in every room.

The master bedroom has a marble fireplace, two large window units, dressing room and bath.

The house boasts a billiard room on the second floor with a fireplace and a skylight.

In spite of the massive "out of reach" feeling the house is amazingly cozy and warm in its atmosphere.



Here is a most surprising house. The exterior is extremely interesting as it is as pure in architectural style as possible, which is English Tudor. The surprise of the house is its interior warmth; something large is rarely labeled cozy, but this house is just that.

Through the massive front door which is treated with deep moldings in squares and at each of the molding joints are "spiked heads" of the same wood which is oak. At each side of the front door are floor to ceiling glass panels which are protected and decorated with wrought iron grills.

The front hall has hand hewn beams and a thick sandstone flag floor. The main stairway is very lovely, all in natural oak with a large stylized onion motif on the newel post. Mrs. Kresge advises that it is a typical tudor design. The same design is used on the stairway drops.

The living room is entered through a tudor arch doorway with two steps down to the sunken room. At each side of the steps are wrought iron railings. Into the interesting room - the floor is of wide oak boards which are wooden pegged. On the opposite wall of the entrance is the fireplace. The chimney piece has an outward slope shaped like a large triangle. It could be in the breasted chimney category. There is no mantel shelf but in its place is a hand hewn beam set into the facing of the fireplace. The beam has the faint suggestion of the tudor arch and this in turn blends with the tudor arched shelves on each side of the fireplace. The ceiling has hand hewn wooden beams. This ties the room together with eye running from the window unit at the street side to the window unit at the rear garden side. The unit on the street side has stained glass inserts at intervals in the shape of shields and sun bursts. On the living room walls near the four corners are unusual wall lights. The shades of the wall lights are of hand made Venetian glass depicting the four elements of the universe - earth, air, fire, and water. These were made for the Louis Seltzer family, former owners of the house.

Across the front entry hall is the dining room. The doorway here too is the tudor arch. Instead of a door of the usual materials of wood, or glass, or no door at all, it is a gate of wrought iron. It is an unusual door treatment and it is quite intriguing, as one can see into the dining room, yet the room is secluded; like a veil on a woman's hat. The dining room has one whole wall paneled in oak. The fireplace is on this wall and the fireplace facing is of sandstone with a design of the tudor rose carved in the top corners. The windows in the room are again the lovely floor to ceiling leaded glass style. The chandelier looks like a large wedding band of filigree bronze with five lights each with etched venetian glass shades.

17825 Lake Road, Continued

The kitchen and butler's pantry are all up to date in modern decor and conveniences. The kitchen paneling and cabinets are French Provincial style. It must be said here that the outstanding feature of every room is the window treatment. Every window is leaded glass and the windows are placed in the most attractive location.

To the rear of the front entry is the morning room. This room has a view of the garden. The floor material is varied colored slate and placed in the floor are hand made decorative tiles. The walls are a rough plaster with a molding finishing off the wall. The molding is painted in the typical Williamsburg colors and Mrs. Kresge was the painter. Each owner since Mrs. Kresge has appreciated the molding and have kept it intact. In three corners of the room are built-in cupboards with open shelves. In the fourth corner is the window; this arrangement of cupboards and window makes the room octagon shaped. It is a very attractive room which would lift one's spirit at any time of day.

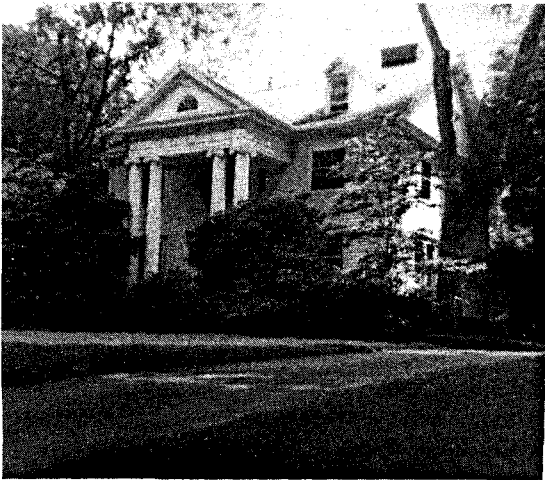
Going up the main staircase the treat at the landing is the view of the garden at the rear of the house. There is a pool or a pond with fish in it at the left of the yard. Going straight back to the brick wall is a lovely shrine in honor of Saint Anthony, patron saint of the Celebrezze household. Even though the rear yard is a vast expanse of lawn and garden areas there is a secluded feeling there. At the right of the yard is a fountain in a wall and the water is captured in shallow baths at different levels.

From the garden the attention is taken to the second floor. All bedrooms have the lovely window units with window seats, and every bedroom has a view of the garden. The master bedroom's outstanding feature is a knotty pine paneled wall with a fireplace. It is a large pleasant room. An upstairs sitting room offers an informal place for relaxing. In the sitting room there is a marble faced fireplace.

Another room serves as a library and a den. Some of the memorabilia from Judge Celebrezze's years when he was Mayor of Cleveland and from his years of service with the Federal Government as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare are displayed in the room. There are pens used by President Johnson to sign the H.E.W. bills into law; commemorative medals, keys to cities, gavels, awards and citations. One citation is especially interesting - an illuminated parchment hand printed in Italian from the people and the Mayor of Rome to Secretary Celebrezze.

Now down the interesting main staircase to the recreation room. The whole area is paneled. The eye interest here is the mural painted by Shirley Seltzer. It is a hunt scene going the three sides of the large room. Cleverly and humorously the fox can be found asleep under the mantel shelf of the fireplace!

The Celebrezze home is alive with interesting objects and interesting people, but the house has a very definite atmosphere of peacefulness.



Beautiful rose gardens were once the highlight of this property. A newspaper article in 1965 in the Plain Dealer bears this out. The cultivation of roses was a hobby of Mr. Gresham and the garden ran the depth of the rear lot. But this is no more as the seedling trees of 1907 are now forest size.

Mrs. Riegler mentions the front entry window panels which have stained glass inserts of the shield design; the colors are especially lovely.

All the rooms are large and this lends to privacy and gracious living. This was one of the early homes on this side of Lake Road. It must have been an impressive sight in 1907.

Mr. Gresham was born in Sheffield, England in 1867. He was educated in the commercial and private schools of Sheffield. At the age of thirteen, Mr. Gresham was employed in the firm of Nealthy and Son, makers of cutlery. At nineteen years of age he was made manager of the pocket knife department. Mr. Gresham came to the States in 1886. He was employed by the J. H. Wade Realty Company and was also private secretary to Mr. J. H. Wade.

Mr. Gresham was a trustee for the Village of Lakewood and also served on the Lakewood City Council from 1910 to 1921. In 1909, Mr. Gresham was appointed British Vice Consul to the Port of Cleveland. He served in this appointment until some years after World War I.

Mr. Gresham enjoyed writing poetry, reading, playing cricket and cultivating roses. He was a tall straight backed, reserved Englishman with a delectable sense of humor to those who knew him.

Mr. Gresham's Clifton Park home was at 17831 Lake Road.

From Mrs. Jack LaFever, daughter of H. E. Gresham and from The Book of Clevelanders of 1914, by the Burrows Bros. Company.

If you mentally reduce the size of the house for a moment it will have the attitude of a cottage. The roof line is rolled and low slung which is a cottage trademark.

For a house designed and built in 1907 it is surprisingly free of fussiness. The interior detail of woodwork and fireplaces are simple colonial designs which have become classic.



The reception hall is large and light with windows at the rear of the house and at the staircase landing; bringing in the light. The staircase is lovely and it has a graceful turn at the landing.

The living room is large and has a view of the lake. The room flows into a library at the lake side of the house. There are more windows here which gives both rooms an "open" feeling. The fireplace in the living room has a simple mantelpiece and it has a white marble facing.

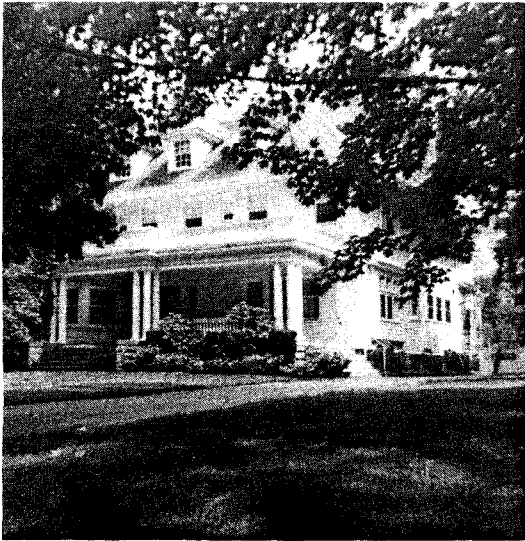
The dining room is large and it has a view of the lake through a glassed enclosed porch. The fireplace in the dining room is again of simple design. The scenic wallpaper in this room is the original paper. It is of French origin but at this moment its fate is being pondered.

The kitchen has been modernized. It is a large room and it has a butler's pantry.

The architect of the house believed in sturdy structural detail. Closets are cleverly placed in the steep slopes of the roof. The second floor hallway is long and it is securely braced with a tudor arch midway in the length of the hall. At one end of the hall there is a sewing room alcove. Along the lake side of the hallway is a long section of linen cupboards and drawers; which is easily reached to accommodate all bedrooms and baths. All bedrooms are pleasant with comfortable features of fireplaces, cheerful windows and good views.

The interior of the house is such that almost any mood of color and furniture design can be used and it would be fine with the house. It is a house that is adaptable to the person. It has no architectural idiosyncrasies to be endured.

The garden on the lake side is secluded and tranquil. There are fine old dogwood trees close to the house and a side screened porch which is always shaded and always cool.



This house is a center hall Georgian colonial, "in spite of the front porch," Mrs. Seaman said.

The reception hall has an open circular staircase. At the staircase landing is a large window. The stairway goes to the left and to the right from the landing. The entrance downstairs and up has a lovely spacious effect.

The highlight of the living room is the fireplace. The mantelpiece rises almost to the ceiling. It is a marvelous deep broken pediment with Ionic pilasters "holding up" the pediment. The fireplace facing is of light colored onyx. All woodwork in the living room is mahogany.

The sunroom has an unusual feature. It has the original wallpaper from 1908. Mrs. Seaman explained it is hand blocked and from the Louisiana Purchase collection. The paper covers the three walls and each section is a different scenic design but all harmonizing in colors.

A beamed ceiling and wall paneling are the features in the dining room. The woodwork is oak. Large windows are also in all the public rooms.

Mrs. Seaman is the daughter of F. B. Anderson and she mentioned that in the early days after the house had been built that the vineyards still sprouted up on their property. The trees that are on the property were planted by Mr. Anderson. In the early days there were no homes to the rear of the house, just open fields.

F. B. Anderson

Mr. Anderson was one of the first Clifton Park Trustees serving with Mr. F. C. Case, Mr. L. B. Hall, Mr. F. A. Glidden and Mr. E. E. Adams.

Mr. Anderson was very interested in Clifton Beach and he worked with Mr. Adams to promote this same interest among the Park residents. He gave personal financial help to keep the Beach and the Bathhouse in good working order, but Mr. Anderson's daughter, Mrs. Clarence Seaman, said most of the credit should go to Mr. Adams.

The possession of the Beach was often threatened to be taken away by the City of Lakewood. This meant a lot of hard work to fight off this disaster. Mrs. Seaman mentioned the fine work the young married residents are doing to keep the Beach in top condition and the interest they promote to bring the young people to the Beach. This is what her father and Mr. Adams worked hard to do.

Mr. Anderson was president of the V. D. Anderson Co. which manufactures and markets throughout the world the equipment for the extraction of oil from oil bearing seeds and nuts.

Robert B. Wallace/Clement T. Loshing - 17836 Lake Road - Built in 1903

This house has large public rooms and large windows giving a good view of the lake. The living room has a large fireplace with a deep mantle shelf. Corbels are under the shelf in a scroll design. The fireplace facing is finished in stone ribbing.

The two front entry doors are of very heavy cherry wood, in keeping with the generous exterior woodwork and the gables.



The reception room is roomy and pleasant with the open staircase on the rear wall. Following up the staircase the eye can see windows of leaded glass. The upper windows on the same staircase wall are of "Tiffany" glass.

There is a "captain's" room off the dining room. This room gives the best view of the lake. There are six huge windows here that form a half circle. The narrow paneling between the windows is oak and it is carved in a medallion design. Mr. Loshing points out that the window arrangement is like the wheel-house of a ship.

The dining room has a large built in server and has the original cut crystal knobs on the leaded glass cupboard doors. The theme of crystal is repeated in a large crystal chandelier. There is a large window unit which gives a view of the lake. An old plate rail runs the three sides of the room. This gives the answer to "problem" dishes. The kitchen has been remodeled and is now a handsome modern room, clean and crisp.

The fine old house is heavily gabled and has a luxurious tiled roof. The roof was half blown away in the 1956 windstorm. It took six months to locate a tile maker who made the same tile. He was found in Philadelphia.

It is good to know that the same pride and interest of 1903 still exists today in keeping Clifton Park homes in good repair, and attractive.

Mr. Wallace was a native of Cleveland. He earned the degree in naval architecture at M.I.T. in 1899. All his active work was in shipbuilding. He was head of the designing department of the American Shipbuilding Co. in 1901. Later he served as General Manager of the company.

Mr. Wallace was Director and Vice President of the Kinney Steamship Company and President of the Shore Acre Land Company.

He was a member of the Union Club, Country Club, Clifton Club, Hermit Club, and Westwood Country Club.

From Cleveland and Its Environs, by E. M. Avery, and the kindness of Mrs. F. U. S. Gilbert.



Mr. Glidden called his home "Franklyn Villa."

A former owner said of the house, "17840 Lake Road is a house beloved by all who ever lived there."

The front door is a massive one of fumed oak and wrought iron. The whole house is spacious and when moving from room to room one gets a feeling of warmth. The reception room is large

and has a fine staircase with a large window at the landing. The floor of the reception room is walnut parquet.

The living room is large and has a very large fireplace. There are comfortable window seats toward the lake side of the room. The ceiling in the room is beamed.

The library is most interesting, and color has to be mentioned. The woodwork, wood paneling and bookshelves have eight coats of black paint; each coat was handrubbed with oil and pumice to create the effect of teakwood. The windows in the library are leaded glass casement style. The eye interest here is a painting of a royal gentleman of old China. The painting is an original and is at least 225 years old; and it once belonged to Mrs. Groth's paternal grandmother. Mrs. Groth is a former owner of the house. The painting is now part of the house as it is fastened to the library wall.

The dining room is a gem. It is an authentic English dining room. The whole room is paneled in oak. There is hand carved detail over the mantelpiece, over the doorways and windows in an oak leaf and acorn motif. Famed sculptor Frank L. Jirouch designed and executed the carvings himself. He also designed and hand carved the stone fireplace. The ceiling of the dining room is decorated in large wooden medallions, designed by Mr. Jirouch. The unusual feature behind the ceiling treatment was the use of buttermilk. The buttermilk seasoned the plaster and kept it from cracking. The wall at the lake side of the dining room is a half circle.

The family room is on the lake side, is all glassed in and runs the width of the house. In this room there is a bas-relief plaque made by Mr. Jirouch. It is a copy of the Music Makers by Andrea del Sarto. Beyond the glass sliding doors of the family room is a stone terrace (Berea sandstone). This also gives a view of the lake and garden.

17840 Lake Road, Continued

All bedrooms are large and pleasant, and the bathrooms are the latest in modern decor and comfort. The master bedroom is exceptional. At one end of the room is a fireplace from an 18th Century chateau in France. The marble is called Rouge Ronce, a soft toned pink marble. The opposite end of the room has a row of windows on the same circle as the dining room below. Adjoining the master bedroom is a very large sitting room. The view from the master bedroom is upon the lake, the terrace below and the garden beyond.

The house has a beautiful kitchen. It is all new and the cabinet work is Italian provincial design. It is a cheerful room and there is a pleasant breakfast room beyond the kitchen.

A fireplace mantel in another bedroom is made from Travertino from Mt. Vesuvius where it is commonplace, but rarely found or seen here. Travertine is the soft flaky limestone residue that flows from hot springs. Under the heat and pressure within the earth this substance sometimes changes to marble. The famous Spanish Steps in Rome are paved entirely of Travertine or Travertino.

The basement houses a Swiss village and a tropical trading post. The rooms are painted with oil paints and highlighted with fluorescent paint and is lighted with a black light for great effect.

The three attached garages are finished inside with large glazed tile which makes it easy to clean, and automatically fireproofs the garage.

The authentic oriental garden is a composite of Chinese and Japanese. A few highlights or stations in the garden are given here: the red gates are the gates of the Northern Lights and the Chinese characters on the gates say, "Happy Welcome - Enter, Look and Enjoy;" the River Wu and Pond of the Dragon are found inside the gates.

In planning the garden care was taken to plant the correct tree, bush and flower. There are three weeping flowering cherry trees. Water flows continually; winding its way through the garden and finding release in the pond. There is a stone tea table and seat beside a gentle "natural" fountain. This quiet peaceful garden was created by Mrs. Groth who remembers her childhood visits to an oriental tea garden in San Francisco.

Architect was Arthur N. Oviatt.

Another owner of this home was Roy B. Robinette. Mr. Robinette was born on his parents' farm in Bedford, Ohio; he was educated in the Cleveland schools. His business was with the Tropical Paint and Oil Company serving

as Secretary and Treasurer. This was his own business, in partnership with Mr. George C. Hascall. Mr. Robinette was also Treasurer of the Hascall Paint Company and a Director of the Industrial Discount Company.

Mr. Robinette served as President of the Cleveland Paint, Oil and Varnish Club and Vice President of the National Paint, Oil and Varnish Industry Association. The City Club; Civic League; Cleveland Athletic Club, Cleveland Yacht Club and the Hermit Club were the memberships held by Mr. Robinette.*

*From Cleveland and Its Environs, by E. M. Avery, and the kindness of Mrs. F. U. S. Gilbert.

F. G. Fish/Dr. Richard Mueller - 17844 Lake Road - Built in 1901



Mrs. Mueller has said, "It is a wonderful home for children."

All rooms are large. There are plenty of indoor and outdoor play spots. A former owner added a first floor family room and the Muellers added a breezeway with a terrazzo floor. This matches the family room, shower room and basement floors. The basement has been paneled in knotty pine.

The windstorm of 1956 felled nine trees from the lakefront yard. Three trees hit the house and did window damage. Upon making repairs a picture window was installed in the master bedroom. Once most of the windows were the storybook type, small diamond shape lights set in lead. With the problem of a sun drenched yard, circumstances were mastered by building a swimming pool. The driveway was enlarged to the size of a tennis court, and one winter a portable ice rink was seen in action. At least one Mueller offspring should make an Olympic team someday.

There are four fireplaces in the house, all are a large size. The living room length is the width of the house. At the end of the living room on the lake side is a bay window with the diamond shape lights. To complete the setting, one can watch the sunsets over the lake.

The kitchen has been modernized and the window unit improved from two windows to three.

Mr. F. G. Fish called his home "Innerleiften."

(Architect - George Hammond)

The house is one of the earlier homes in the Park, a large home with good size rooms. The rooms to the rear of the house have a good view of the lake.

The front entrance has a warm friendly welcome feeling. There is a large fireplace and at each side there are deep nooks with windows seats and bookshelves in one nook. These windows look out over the lake. Picture the scene and feel the glow - step in the door from a raw damp day and be drawn to the fire. With fires laid in the fireplaces of adjoining rooms it is a very welcome experience. The Norths and Stanleys must have difficulty closing the door on the last guest with a scene like this to leave.



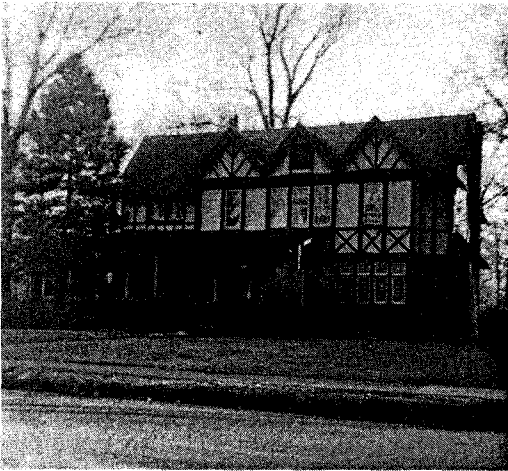
The main staircase is a handsome one and at the first landing are windows which shaft down light to the fireplace in the front entrance. There is a handsome crystal chandelier which was once in the living room.

Other public rooms are cheerful and roomy. The living room has a fine breasted fireplace and is seen directly upon entering the room. The dining room has the original wall covering of hand painted design in oil on canvas. The colors have mellowed and blend with the creamy woodwork. The fireplace in the dining room is a corner one so all diners benefit.

At one time the house boasted a central vacuum cleaner device, all residue being sucked into a master bag. The same idea is used in public buildings and even in newer homes today. The old intercommunication system box is still in the kitchen holding its own among the modern kitchen aids.

Mr. North was President of his own company, The Chamberlin Cartridge and Target Company. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. For many years he was in charge of the local laws which governed hunting and fishing. Mr. North was a good companion and a very likeable person.

Mr. North's daughter, Mrs. Carl Narten tells about the time she was a guest at West Point in her college years. She saw her father's target equipment in use there.



The house was built in 1900 by the "Clifton Building Company;" Charles W. Root was the first owner. Originally the house was smaller than today. Mr. Root made improvements consisting of a large kidney-shaped front porch, a larger front entry and a room at the rear of the house which is now the library.

When the term hand made is used in the interview it means that Mr. Burgyan has constructed the items mentioned. Mr. Burgyan has restored the woodwork on the lower floor to its natural oak. It is easy to state this fact but the process was sand blasting in order to remove many layers of paint and the stubborn stain.

The motif of the house is gothic. The gothic arch is seen in door panels and the dining room wainscoting. Wherever the gothic arch fits in appropriately Mr. Burgyan has made paneling, radiator enclosures and book cases in this motif.

The front entry has high wainscoting in the restored oak. A hand made wrought iron coat pole has been installed to take the place of the original coat hook method. The reception room is large, the ceiling beamed and the walls are paneled in random plank pecan. There is a pleasant alcove in the reception room with a large window, hand made bookcase and lovely red clay tile on the floor, made in Spain.

The living room is large and cheery with an interesting bay window of fine plate glass and upper lights of stained glass. The fireplace facing, consisting of hand made clay tiles, has been restored; there are window seats on each side of the fireplace.

Mr. Burgyan says the library is his room. There are hand made sliding doors padded in leather. Mr. Burgyan laid the walnut parquet flooring, rebuilt the fireplace and put hand made bookshelves to each side of the fireplace on the upper walls and on the lower walls cabinets with hand hammered wrought iron hardware. To the left at the entrance of this room he built a mirror-lined china cabinet with leaded glass door. The fireplace is especially handsome, it is built of limestone slabs extending from the apron to the ceiling. The rest of the walls are treated with burlap; the ceiling is beamed with installed spot lights. The windows are casement and the view is of the garden. It may be Mr. Burgyan's room, but undoubtedly he has to share it. With exception of the library entrance the rooms on the lower level are connected through stone arches.

The dining room has beamed ceiling also and hand made panels on upper walls to match the restored wainscoting and woodwork in the rest of the room.

The pantry is now a breakfast nook. Knotty pine paneling from Idaho was used on two inner walls. The outer wall has brick tile. The ceiling has beams and the ceiling light is hand made wrought iron. Bottle glass is used for cupboard doors and doors in the nook and kitchen. The kitchen and rear entrance repeats the pine paneling and the floor material is stone tile in small squares.

Up the main staircase, Mr. Burgyan replaced the spindles of the small stairway opening and made a handsome gothic arch insert. On both inner walls of the stairway is a lovely low relief in oak of a leaf design. At the first landing the original plain glass window has been replaced with a hand made stain glass one. There is an oak chest with wrought iron hardware beneath the window servicing as a bench. The walls on the landing below are full paneled in pecan, and oak and pecan framing on the upper part of the walls. The next staircase and the complete upper hall repeat wood paneling on the lower walls and wood framed tafeling on the upper walls.

All bedrooms are large, pleasant and two have been enhanced with Mr. Burgyan's craftsman skills. Chestnut and mahogany paneling is used in one room; oak parquet flooring in another.

One of the baths on the second floor is unusually large and the walls are covered with mosaic tiles, and the vanity top is made from marble. A door to the south of the coved window wall leads to the upper back porch.

The large game room on the third floor with all the alcoves offers another challenge for imaginative remodeling.

The atmosphere of the fine old house is one of a baronial great hall, but considerably brighter with the use of color.

Mr. Root was a professional Civil Engineer and surveyor. He had his own private firm and he did engineering work for the City of Lakewood and other municipalities during his career.

In 1902 when Clifton Park was being reallocated Mr. Root was called upon to survey the entire Park and Lagoon lands. His name is found on many Clifton Park land survey maps.

As a hobby Mr. Root found enjoyment in a family farm on the lake in Ashtabula County. Mr. Root also collected the books and manuscripts of Charles Dickens.

The family and friends of Mr. Root found him a very agreeable person. His greatest pleasure was in having his large family at his table at his Clifton Park home.

Alfred R. Horr/James Loughran - 17855 Lake Road - Built in 1904



All the public rooms are large and interesting. The living room has a fireplace that could certainly be made of Rockwood but no one is positive about this. The fireplace facing has tile inserts of the ships The Bounty, The Santa Maria and The La Perouse. (La Perouse was a French navigator of the 1700's.) On the fireplace apron are two more tiles of the Mayflower and the Bounty.

The music room shares the view of the street with the living room. The woodwork in the music room is believed to be fumed oak. There are built in bookshelves in the room. The woodwork of the front entry and staircase is of the same wood or finish as the music room. It is a dark wood but over sixty years the whole affect is one of warmth and sturdiness.

The dining room has a deep beamed ceiling, high wainscoting and a plate rail. At one end of the room above the wainscoting is a mural in a garden motif.

The master bedroom has a lovely fireplace with a tile insert in the facing. It shows a woman seated at a fireplace and a spinning wheel is at her side. The room has molded plaster moldings and matching window cornices that for the moment are stored away. Another bedroom of note is done in the French rococo style. The plaster artwork is on the walls in raised borders which form panels. At the top center of each panel there is a cupid entwined with garlands of flowers and ribbons. The ceiling has a centerpiece of this plaster art. It is a small, but exquisite room.

This house has a basement to talk about. In the 1930's a former owner (Mrs. Fredrick W. Roberts) had the basement remodeled. She hired the artist J. S. Schultz and many workmen to create an English inn. The side entry has hand painted walls, ceiling, stair treads and risers to give the entrant the thought of stepping out of a coach and four. This could be Canterbury country. There is a hunt scene on the walls to the basement. Into the inn - the tap room walls are dark smokey panels of plaster finished in a linen fold design. The low ceiling beams are all carved or hand hewn and the fireplace is a gray carved stone.

A mischievous touch is the ladies' powder room. Here carved monk heads peer down. The water supply comes from a small wine keg. A painting showing a monk poised over a manuscript is actually the guest book. Many of the names have faded away, but here are a few . . . Muriel Hoffman, Lucille Albrecht, Gertrude S. Stone.

Another part of the basement has an all mirrored dance room with colored lighting in it. Beyond the dance floor is a modern barroom with a brass rail and mirrored back bar.

The exit is an interesting escape route through a pirate's cave. This is achieved by hand painted panels. At every turn there are pirates, dark, mysterious and sometimes alarming, lurking, leering, ready to grab you.

The exit door is finally reached and the back yard is a reality with a pleasant yard and swimming pool to welcome you.

Charles H. Reed - 17852 Lake Road - Built in 1929

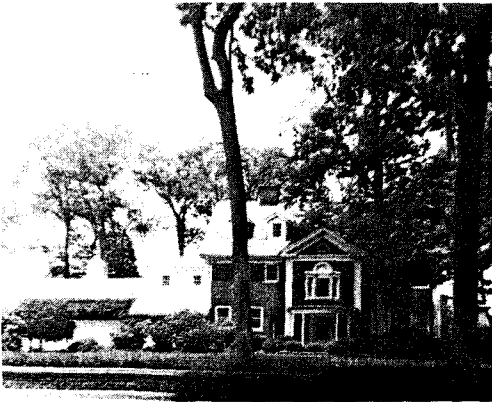
The home of the Reeds' looks as though it is new. It has been maintained beautifully through the years. It is English Tudor design with leaded glass casement windows. The public rooms are very pleasant. The fireplace in the living room is a large English style and on each side of the fireplace are opaque leaded glass windows. These windows bring light into the room and also give privacy. The living room has an unusual feature of having window or glass door exposure on four sides of the room. There is a large window facing south, giving a view of the front lawn and the trees; and the big bay window with window seats, facing north, gives a marvelous view of the lake and the sunsets.



The living room, library and dining room face the lake. Although the house is set among large oak trees, the rooms are bright and cheerful because of the large windows.

The porch and terrace also face the lake. When the Reed's two sons were at home they were the fourth generation in Mrs. Reed's family to live in Clifton Park. The lot the Reed house is on is one of two adjoining ones that Mrs. Reed's father, Albert Gehring, bought in 1902, and he was the owner until his passing.

Stephen L. Pierce/Werner G. Smith - 17856 Lake Road - Built in 1902



Mr. S. L. Pierce was an Ohio shoe manufacturer. This house proves the thought that a brick house looks timeless. The bricks were of a special kiln which were imported from Boston, Massachusetts. The house was also a copy of a Boston home, but which one and why this was done no one knows.

Mrs. Smith says the interior is of no special detail - just a good pleasant home. It is mentioned here because it is part of the early Clifton Park homes. Mr. Pierce was born at Birmingham, Ohio. He was educated at Oberlin College. For many years he worked with the firm of Childs, Goff and Company, shoe jobbers. In 1844, Mr. Pierce started to manufacture shoes himself. His company was the S. L. Pierce and Company and he was the President.

Mr. Pierce was a Director of The First National Bank and The Guardian Savings and Trust Company; and a Director of The Clifton Park Land Improvement Co. He held memberships in the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce; served as Treasurer of the Chamber; member of the Union Club; Clifton Club; Gatling Gun Battery and the Cleveland Athletic Club.

From the Book of Clevelanders of 1914, by Burrows Bros. Company.

Dr. Frank McCartney/Kenneth Wasley - 17859 Lake Road - Built in 1902



The lake can be seen from every room of this house. All the rooms are large and square. This makes furniture arrangements easy and gives the feeling of space.

The front entry is very lovely. The interest here is the fluted Corinthian columns at the living room doorway and at the staircase approach.

The fireplace in the living room is a handsome one of brick facing and heavy wood dentils under the mantel shelf. At each side of the fireplace are two unusual casement windows. They are of leaded glass, but not of the usual geometric design. It is in a bending floral design. Off the living room is the library. This is raised one step from the living room level and can be closed off by a sliding door. This is a room in which to relax - the books, the window seats, and beamed ceiling - a quiet room.

When going up the fine open staircase and past the landing you can see the high leaded glass windows. The second floor rooms are all light and large. Here is a fine old Park home with its large rooms and the housekeeper's dream of nine storage closets on the third floor. The third floor also has two bedrooms and a sitting room.

Mrs. Frank McCartney has been quoted saying, "The house was built as weather tight as a filling in a tooth." Dr. McCartney was a dentist. Mr. Dana Hill's father always said, "My fillings built that house!"

Dr. McCartney enjoyed everything he did according to his son, Lloyd. He enjoyed the friendships of people throughout Greater Cleveland regardless of their religion, politics or social status. When he opened his office at Clark and West 25th Street his first patient was a police officer. It was the officer's opinion that Dr. McCartney would have a difficult time establishing a practice as there were already two other dentists on the south side of town!

Dr. McCartney enjoyed horseback riding into the 1930's and he owned his own horse for many years.

Frank C. Case/Richard Endress - 17860 Lake Road - Built in 1905

The Case family called their house "Kennebunk." It was their summer home until 1911. From that time on they lived there the year round.

The reception room of the house is a beauty and very spacious. It has the best fireplace in the house. The mantle shelf is very high. The staircase goes all the way to the third floor. Mrs. Endress said once one of their sons "blitzed" an insurance man with a toy dropped from one of the landings.



The living room has a view of the lake. The ceiling is beamed and all the woodwork is soft warm gumwood. The fireplace facing is Italian marble. The library is also a large room and the fireplace has a tile facing and mantle. There is a large closet in the library which was originally the elevator to service the household. On the lake side of the house is a large screened porch for summer living. During yacht racing days it commands a wonderful view.

An interesting construction detail is found in the basement. The house is held up with a series of barrel arches all done in brick work. The kitchen still has a useful bun warmer. This is a spur off the heating system. Mrs. Endress guards it whenever kitchen improvements are made. It is a most useful device.

Mr. Case was born in Interlaken, New York. He held the position of President of Lamson and Sessions Company in Cleveland, and was one of the first Clifton Park Trustees. He was also president of the Jones Home. Mr. Case enjoyed the game of golf. He was a quiet and retiring person.

George Case followed in his father's footsteps in choosing his career. In 1904 Mr. Case joined the Lamson and Sessions Company. By 1929 Mr. Case had become President of the company and in 1938 he was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors.

From Mrs. George S. Case, daughter-in-law of Mr. F. C. Case and wife of Mr. George S. Case.

Jesse B. Roberts/Henry Hunczak - 17863 Lake Road - Built in 1901



The house has a massive colonial feeling. The use of woods on the exterior detail has been generous.

The front entry is circular. Arthur N. Oviatt, the architect, said, "The circular center bay on the first and second floors is the only one of its kind in the United States."

All public rooms are large. The house is a center hall style with a handsome staircase and a large landing. At the landing the staircase goes left and right - up to the second floor. On the landing is a large alcove which could be a watching station for the parents of a dating daughter. The alcove has a different kind of wall and ceiling arrangement. The wall from ceiling to dropped cornice is angled like a mansard roof. Then the dropped cornice carries around the three sides of the room with a ledge above and cupid heads beneath.

The living room and dining room have beamed ceilings. Each of the rooms has a large fireplace with warm red brick facings. These bricks have mellowed with age and have no violent color. Ionic columns are at the living room entry. The woodwork detail at doorways and archways use the leaf and scroll design on corbels. This is a house of yesteryear. It has cozy window seats in the living room and a fine lookout ledge on the south staircase.

The second floor rooms are large and the woodwork is interesting, with arched doorways with carved designs. One bedroom is on the round at one end; it follows the line of the front entry. The master bedroom has an arched alcove and the dormer windows are also arched inside.

Mr. John Pyke was a former owner of this house. He recalls some of the detail of the house when he acquired it in 1938: "The house was originally brown shingled. We transformed the color to white; cypress wood ceiling beams; Tiffany glass chandeliers (the inverted bowl style) in the living room and dining rooms; plate rail in the dining room; servants call buttons in all rooms; parqueted floors throughout the house; butler's pantry; separate refrigerator room off the kitchen with a pass through opening permitting ice to be placed in the refrigerator through the back porch; a gasoline tank buried under the garage floor with a solid brass gasoline pump above it to supply the family's horseless carriages; a commodious cistern to collect rainwater with a hand pump connected to the basement laundry tubs. These features were typical of the first decade of the 20th century." Mr. Pyke also adds that the original owner, Mr. J. B. Roberts, operated a sandstone quarry in Berea, Ohio. When the Pykes removed wallpaper in the upper hall a pencilled date was written on the plaster - April 1901.

Lucien B. Hall/Charles W. York - 17864 Lake Road - Built in 1905

In the early residential years of Clifton Park the nucleus of residents were summer people only. This house is one of the summer colony group. The other early homes were built by those who wanted a year around home in the country.



The front door of the house is a massive oak door with big wrought iron bracings. The inner vestibule door is of thick beveled glass framed in a heavy door of mahogany. At each side of the inner door are narrow windows of leaded, stained glass in a tulip design. The ceiling of the vestibule is finished in a rectangle frame of carved wood in a leaf design. The reception hall is large and has beautiful woodwork. The doorways leading off the hall are capped with cornices under which is the detail of dentils. These are little blocks of wood on a horizontal line and painstakingly fastened at even intervals. The doorway to the living room has Ionic capped fluted columns. There is wainscoting in the reception hall and it is carried up the lovely staircase to the first landing.

The landing opening is treated like a huge doorway. It is arched from the top of fluted Ionic pilasters. At each side of the landing up near the ceiling are lovely little oriels with opaque casement windows. Under the bay of the oriels are carved corbels in the leaf design. As lovely and as unusual as the oriels are, the eye is taken to the fine leaded stained glass window. It has a center arched window and two side windows. There is a grapevine design traveling through the windows. The wall on the landing has a high shelf under which are alternating carved heads and a leaf cluster. Above the shelf the wall slants like a mansard roof and dentils are used to finish off the wall and ceiling joint lines. The woodwork throughout the public rooms is very generous, but not overpowering because the rooms are large and the ceilings are high.

Down the stairway one enters the large living room with beamed ceiling. The large windows make it cheerful. The windows have a tulip design in leaded glass in the upper portion. The fireplace is large and has Ionic columns at each side under the mantel shelf and again the dentil detail goes the width of the fireplace.

The music room is off the living room. It has casement windows and a window seat. Over the bookshelves are windows of leaded glass with the tulip design. At the entry to the music room are fluted Ionic capped columns.

Across the reception hall is the large dining room. It has a beamed ceiling, high wainscoting and a large window unit with a window seat. The fireplace is large with a high mantel shelf. The facing of the fireplace is a glazed tile with a graceful copper hood.

There is a butler's pantry which would be an ample kitchen in a smaller home. Beyond the pantry is a huge kitchen and a large "cold" room for food storage. On the other side of the pantry and off the dining room is the morning room. This room and the dining room have a good view of the lake.

During the years of the L. B. Hall residency the house was called "Mannavista."

Mr. Hall was born in Kent, Ohio. He attended Western Reserve University and then left college to enter the firm of Benton, Myers and Canfield in 1870. This company afterward became Benton, Hall and Company, and then later Hall, Van Gorder and Company. This company is now part of the vast McKesson Robbins Company. (If you travel east on the High Level Bridge you can see the Hall-Van Gorder name on the warehouse. It is toward the lake.)

Mr. Hall was President and Treasurer of the Hall, Van Gorder Company; Vice President and Treasurer of the Cleveland Fruit Juice Company; Director of The Cleveland National Bank; Trustee of Clifton Park; a trustee for Associated Charities; a trustee for fifteen years for the Cleveland Y. M. C. A.; Chairman for five years for Board of Control of National Wholesale Druggist Association and Director of The Wholesale Merchants Board for two years.

For relaxation Mr. Hall enjoyed the game of golf. He was an outgoing, entertaining and jolly person.

From The Book of Clevelanders of 1914, by The Burrows Bros., and Mrs. George Case, daughter of Mr. L. B. Hall.



"Inglewood" was built by Francis H. Glidden who was eighty years old at this time. Mr. Glidden lived on East 55th Street and drove to his paint and varnish company every day. He finished his working day by inspecting the construction of his Clifton Park home.

The name Inglewood was on all of Mr. Glidden's personal stationery and on all the household glassware. The house was planned by a Baltimore architect and the firm is still flourishing today. The interior of the house is Adams period, with low relief ceiling detail in the public rooms. The fireplace and doorways all have the Adam motif. Mrs. Foley said the interior is typical of the homes along the James River in Virginia. It would be hard to fathom this from the exterior because Mr. Glidden was fond of California Spanish architecture! This is why the Glidden-Foley home has a Spanish facade.

Before health and sanitation laws forbade poultry on city property the Glidden chicken coop was a fine white pillared structure. After the chickens departed the fancy coop was a playhouse for the grandchildren. The George Foley children are the fourth generation of the same family to live at Inglewood. Mrs. Foley is a granddaughter of F. H. Glidden and Mrs. Foley makes the observation that in her grandfather's time the after dinner period was spent on the front porch. Now the scene has shifted to the rear patios.

A Glidden touch that makes the Foley home rather special is the oratory built for Mrs. F. H. Glidden. Mrs. Glidden was an invalid and she could not attend church with her family. Mr. Glidden had the oratory built as a birthday surprise. It is a sweet, quiet place to worship and to receive the parish priest.

The front door is made of different kinds of fine woods and varnished with Glidden's, of course. Please notice the fine double chimneys on the house. There are three double chimneys which means there are six fireplaces in the house.

Mr. Glidden was a native of Newcastle, Maine; he was born in 1832. His early career was with a steamboat company, which took him to Alabama. While conducting business in the South the Civil War was declared and one year later Mr. Glidden was hijacked into the Confederate Army as a soldier. Mr. Glidden came through all war experiences safely and he returned to Maine. He no longer cared for the steamboat business, nor for the water, so he became connected with a paint firm. This firm, William Tilden and Nephew, sent Mr. Glidden to Cleveland as manager in 1868.

Here is the great American story again - from a modest business in which Glidden was employed he learned the business and he eventually had his own paint and varnish business. From these early and simple beginnings grew the giant Glidden Company.

The eye is attracted to this home by the window box treatment. Every window has a box of geraniums that is set out every spring. Only two families have owned the house and this is quite remarkable in this day of transferring dads.

Mrs. Foster said that when the wallpaper in the living room was removed the names of the Rodier children, pictures they had drawn and the date of 1903 were on the walls. All are still preserved under the fresh wallpaper. The names are Susanna, Marie, June, Jeannette, Helen and Philbert.



Mrs. Foster said the house is a simple colonial interior. Even though the rooms are large there is a pleasant intimacy throughout. The staircase is handsome and has an arched window at the landing. The living room fireplace is plain and serviceable.

The "woman killer" furnace was replaced with a modern unit and the old coal bin was transformed from "Cinderella" to a princess of an office for Mrs. Foster.

More land was bought to add planting beyond the driveway and to make the drive entrance more attractive. Land was also acquired to build a greenhouse at the rear of the lot. Only once were all the geraniums wintered in the greenhouse; Mrs. Foster said she had a family of 350 geranium plants and it was too big a job. Now the greenhouse caters to tropical plants, orchids and greenery of this sort.

All the years the Foster children were young they were always called from play by a bell that was fastened in the kitchen stairway. The bell could be heard around the Lake, West Forest, Forest circle. This was the boundary for the Foster children. The old bell was originally used to summon the Rodier chauffeur who had quarters above the garage.

When the dining room was redecorated it was discovered the dark oak paneling was really chestnut. The paneling was cleaned and the lighter chestnut wood brightens the whole room.

In spite of the Foster children being boys there have been three weddings in the house plus a silver anniversary and a golden anniversary - a well lived in home.

At age twenty-seven Mr. Rodier was in charge of the Grasselli Chemical plant in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. Eventually he came to the Grasselli Company's main office in Cleveland. In later years this company merged with the DuPont Chemical Company and Mr. Rodier was a Vice President until his retirement.

Mr. Rodier's favorite pastime was to retire to his Canadian fishing cabin on the northern shore of Lake Superior.

Mr. Rodier was noted for his honesty in business dealings. Even his competitors said he was honest. He like people and he understood them. He was insistent that his family, friends and business associates be punctual for dinner dates and business meetings. He claimed time was valuable.

The Rodier's "discovered" Clifton Park through social invitations at the C. B. Stowe home.

Miss Rodier said that the Park in her childhood was woodland and it was sparsely settled with houses. The lake was beautifully clear and clean. The roads were dirt and the horse and carriage was the mode of transportation.

The Rodiers were charter members of the new Lakewood Congregational Church and she said her family almost represented one-half of the congregation! She and the other children in her family attended West School (McKinley). At that time the school had four rooms and fifty students.

Clifton Building Company/Edward R. Sharp - 17877 Lake Road - Built about 1900

This charming house is one of the older Park homes and one of the most popular in its early years. The Clifton Park Building Company built this house in conjunction with the Clifton Park Association and the later Clifton Park Land Improvement Company. This house and at least four others were built by the Clifton Building Company to encourage settlers to Clifton Park. The other houses are located at the following addresses: 17853 Lake Road, 18144 Clifton Road, 1116 Forest Road, 1120 Forest Road.



As the early homes of 1903-1904 were being built, this house was a popular rental. Life got rather hectic at times. Families would be rushed into their new homes before building details were completed in order to make way for a new family in the rental house. The first private owner of this house was Mrs. Herman Mueller. Mrs. Mueller bought the house in 1905.

Mrs. Sharp has kept the house crisp, simple and pleasant. The most attractive feature is the old staircase. It is of a solid panel motif up to the top step. Then from the panel line to the ceiling the staircase is finished in turned balusters. It is so different from all the staircases mentioned in the other house interviews. The immediate thought is - storybook! The house carries out this storybook idea with leaded glass windows.

The library has a fine fireplace with simple lines. At each side of the fireplace are french doors which open onto the veranda. The way the house sets it is almost like being in a lookout post. There is a 3-way view, up West Forest Road and north and south on Lake Road. Here is a house which can be easily overlooked. It seems to be tucked away in the corner. But take note of it the next time you are in the neighborhood. Especially note the tiny gem of a garden. Mrs. Sharp has made genius use of the small garden area; it is a tuberous begonia garden.

Mrs. William J. Starkweather/James Carter - 17879 Lake Road - Built in 1906

This home built by Mrs. W. J. Starkweather was her second Clifton Park home. Just possibly it could have been more than the second home as Mrs. Starkweather was the daughter of Elias Sims. Mr. Sims had a financial and executive hand in the Clifton Park Association and the Rocky River Railroad. It is possible that Mrs. Starkweather spent most of her childhood summers in old Clifton Park.



This "second" home of Mrs. Starkweather's is very simple and unadorned in comparison to the first house.

The living room is large and the woodwork is plain. The fireplace treatment is also plain. The windows are large and for over forty years there was an unbroken view of the lake.

The dining room is large and again carries out the simplicity idea. This room has the advantage of looking onto Mrs. Vokoun's colorful garden. The main staircase is a closed style and at the landing are built in bookcases - a reminder to choose a book on the way up to bed.

The old style kitchen has been completely remodeled. An unusual feature is a small efficiency kitchen in part of the enclosed side porch. Everything is there in the streamlined unit - cupboard, sink, stove and refrigerator. The design and decorating blends with the rest of the porch decor.

Notice the clever use of exterior paint color. It keeps the large, high house within bounds and is very pleasing to the eye.

George P. McKay/Miss Marian R. Shell - 17880 Lake Road - Built in 1903



The location of the house must have pleased Captain McKay. He sailed throughout the Great Lakes and must have sailed past Clifton Park long before he lived here.

The house is large and it has generous windows in every room. The first fine feature is the inner door of Czechoslovakian glass which leads to a large reception room. The rear door of the reception room has the same fine glass. Picture the colors coming from these doors on sunny days. The front entrance at night when it is lighted is a very pleasing sight.

Here is a proud old house that is once more made alive with light and color and the personalities of Miss Shell and her family. Highlight features of the house are the chandeliers of Venetian glass. Glass is very evident in the house. The main bath, the ballroom and stairway windows are of "Tiffany" glass.

The fireplace in one of the two first floor living rooms is of hand carved Tigerwood. Tigerwood is the heartwood of a tree found in the tropics of Africa and South America. The fireplace is an elegant piece of woodwork topped with a large mirror framed in the carved Tigerwood.

The fireplace in the other living room boasts a green Italian mosaic tile. This fireplace mantle shelf rises almost to the ceiling. The tile is a lovely sparkling, crackled green. In the same room is a handsome built in bookcase with glass doors which houses Marian's collection of dolls from all the countries in which she has performed.

Marble has been used generously throughout the house and especially in bathrooms. One very convenient feature in every bedroom is a closeted marble sink. The space is large enough for a mirror and toiletries. The main bath is very large with the tub in the center of the room. It has a French atmosphere. The wainscoat high tile work is finished with a ribbon of carved marble edging. A lovely stained glass window is in this room.

The dining room is spacious and has a hand carved server that is built in. The morning room is set in a bay and faces south. It is a bright room that would set anyone's day at a jaunty angle.

At the rear of the house is a Japanese garden. Marian has named the house Shell Oaks.

Mr. Cherna and his family lived at 17780 Lake Road. Mr. Cherna was publisher and editor of the Hungarian newspaper, Szabad sag which means liberty; and publisher and editor of the German newspaper, Wachter und Anzieger which means watch and report.

Mr. Cherna was a very expansive, sociable person. Mrs. Cherna said that Mr. Cherna would ask about the day's menu and if a special dish was being planned, he would invite friends to share the meal with the family.

Neighbors in the Park still remember the sensational homecoming welcome given to Mrs. Cherna and the children. Mrs. Cherna had been visiting in Europe and returned to the Clifton Park home and was greeted in the following manner:

The sidewalk had five arches garland with flowers and ribbons. A gypsy band was playing at the doorway. Inside there was a huge spread of food and many friends to welcome Mrs. Cherna and the children. Mrs. Cherna nearly fainted, not from the excitement of the marvelous greeting, but from the shock of seeing the interior of her home. The house had been stripped of most of the furnishings and a surprise redecorating job was incomplete. Mr. Cherna had planned a complete redecorating surprise, but he had been surprised himself by Mrs. Cherna's earlier arrival!

Mr. Cherna loved horses and kept his horses at the James Matowitz farm.

Mr. Cherna was called to New York City to discuss his entering the U. S. Diplomatic Service. It was during the days in New York he became ill and passed away. Certainly with his zest and fire the unfilled post was a great loss to the United States.

From a personal interview with Mrs. Andrew Cherna.



The whole exterior of the house is fieldstone which was hand cut on the original premises.

You enter the front door noticing the interesting woodwork detail both on the exterior and the interior. The inner entry floor is of hand made tiles. There are three steps up to the main hall.

On the left of the generous hallway is the living room. The fireplace has a handsome tan marble facing; the veining in it gives it

a mosaic effect. At the south end of the room is a solarium "feeling" and this is emphasized by the view onto the Barth garden. The woodwork is the classic style, fluted pilasters and the lovely arched transom windows in the public rooms lend great charm, yet there is such grace and space to the rooms that the affect is simplicity.

Directly up from the front entry is the dining room; a large room. The lovely windows are repeated and there is a view of the Barth grounds. On the right of the front entry is the library. It is paneled in Circassian walnut, and has a fireplace. It certainly has the classical library look and it is understandably a well used room.

The second floor landing is large and all bedrooms are large and square. The master bedroom has an oriel of three windows, a built in shoe closet, a sitting room and a jalousied sleeping porch.

Mrs. Linn has converted an upstairs bath into a laundry room. The maids quarters is now a sewing room and a playroom for the children.

The third floor is completely finished. One room has wormy chestnut paneling with a fireplace and bookshelves. This was the original owner's study. There is a luggage room and cedar closets and storage space. A third large room on this floor is also paneled in the wormy chestnut.

The house was moved from West Forest Road to its present location on the new road. In order to make the move possible, Mr. Linn had to get the written approval of all lot owners of Clifton Park in order to buy a portion of Shady Lane. This parcel plus part of the Clay Stier lot and part of Mr. and Mrs. Barth's rear yard created a new lot in the Park to which the house was moved.

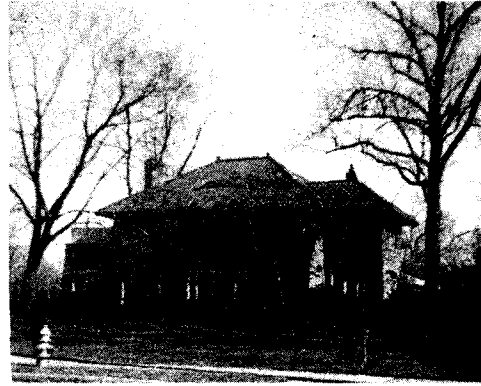
The move was made before the road was cut through. Then the Linns sat and waited more than a year for the horrible dust to stop floating. No interior decorating could be done and no amount of housecleaning could dissolve the constant dust until the road was finished.

The Linns have worked hard to get the house back into a pleasant setting.

Charles A. Myer/Glenn A. Barth - 17895 Lake Road - Built in 1922

This house has a center hall arrangement. The house is so simple that it is elegant. All lower floor rooms have french doors with lovely arched transoms. There are really no windows; just doors.

The staircase in the reception hall is simple and gracious. At the top of the stairs is a little arched window.



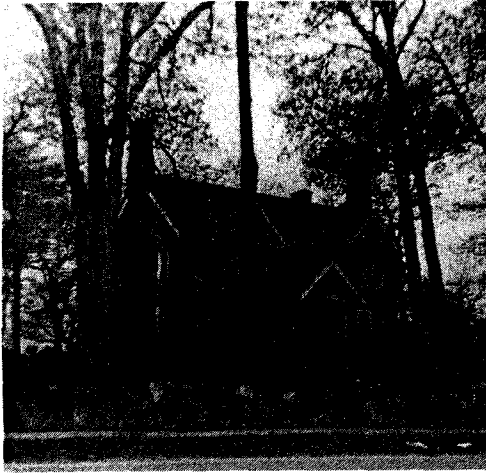
The living room has a fireplace facing of marble from Italy. The mantelpiece is a simple colonial one. The french doors are here again in the living room. Beyond the living room is the sun room with a fireplace and the fine french doors. This room once had a garden view and the french doors were always open in good weather. Now the view is of lovely flowering shrubs and trees which border on and greatly conceal the new road; which has also opened up a wide expanse of sky displaying gorgeous sunsets.

The dining room is lovely, cool and has plenty of light from the french doors. The doors open onto a terrace which runs the length of the house.

The breakfast room has an outside entry to the garden at the rear of the house. It has a southeast exposure from a wide window unit. Pantry and kitchen have been modernized. The butler's pantry boasts a German or coin silver sink bowl. Very elegant. A first floor lavatory and a second floor bath have an unusual wall and ceiling treatment. The material used is solid glass in 10 x 12 inch slabs.

All the bedrooms are spacious and well lighted. One bath is Mrs. Barth's joy as she designed the remodeling plans and her ideas worked beautifully. One bedroom is now a chart room or map room. The charts are fastened to the walls so that they are now a part of the house. Mr. Barth has all the charts of the Great Lakes showing harbors, rivers, sounding, lighthouses, buoys and all the necessary information for yachting. It is a man's room but very interesting even to the land-lubber.

In the rear yard there is a flagstone patio with a built-in grill. Beyond the door is an expanse of lawn. There is a stone walled garden with a wooden gate to enter. It has a formal arrangement of roses in center beds and borders of annuals and perennials. A Martin bird house stands high in the center of the garden.



Harry Coulby built his Clifton Park home out of what seems like ordinary materials, but he enclosed his grounds with a stone wall of the most unusual material which was expensive in 1904. The stone wall outlines the property on three sides. It has been said the huge stones were shipped from Duluth by boat at the cost of \$50,000.

The interior had a large center hallway with a very wide main staircase. At the large landing windows gave a view of Rocky River. The interior woodwork had the quality of fine furniture. The ceiling in the living room was the outstanding feature. Ceilings such as this are found in the great halls and galleries of the Tudor and Stuart style homes in England. This ceiling was an intricate pattern of highly projected curved mouldings intertwined with each other.

The kitchen was huge with a pantry and a seldom heard of feature - a pot closet. This closet is a large walk-in closet with hooks and knobs on which to hang the kitchen utensils.

The second floor woodwork had doors of cherry wood and cherry trim with beautiful grain and finish. The linen closets were finished in the same wood. There was a big glassed in sleeping porch on the second floor. The servants quarters were in a separate wing on this floor also.

In the rear yard was a greenhouse with a decorative fountain inside and a root cellar in the greenhouse to winter the bulbs and roots.

In the room over the garage were the names of three former Clifton Park girls. The girls had formed a club and this is what was written on the garage wall . . . Club Rules - (1) No rough house, (2) No bossing, (3) Keep room clean, (4) No visitors, (5) Meeting any convenient day. Signed Lois Saunders, Betty Stone, Betty Fish.

The house was demolished in the spring of 1969 after suffering a couple of fires. The property is now in the process of being re-allotted and six brick detached town houses will be built. The allotment will be called "Coulby Square".

Harry Coulby was a native of Claypoole, England. He came to the States at the age of 17. He was empty of pocket and had no home. He proved the myth that the streets of America are paved with gold. Mr. Coulby walked from New York City to Cleveland, Ohio to find work. He eventually worked in the office of the Pickands Mather Company.

The story of Harry Coulby is really a legend. At the peak of his career he was singlehandedly running two major steamship lines, The Pittsburgh Steamship Company and the Pickands Mather Company. Mr. Coulby was President of both these companies.

He was a very generous man. In his lifetime he gave million of dollars for the benefit of unfortunate children and the common man. He did not forget Claypoole; he restored the church there and also built a fine village hall.

The home which is more popularly associated with Mr. Coulby is now the City Hall of Wickliffe, Ohio.

From the Annual Report of Lake Carriers' Association of 1928 and the kindness of Mr. Cletus P. Schneider, and from newspaper articles.

Frank A. Mehling/Arthur F. Young - 18093 Clifton Road

Here is a Florentine Villa style house which once appeared in the Architectural Magazine as a good example of the style.

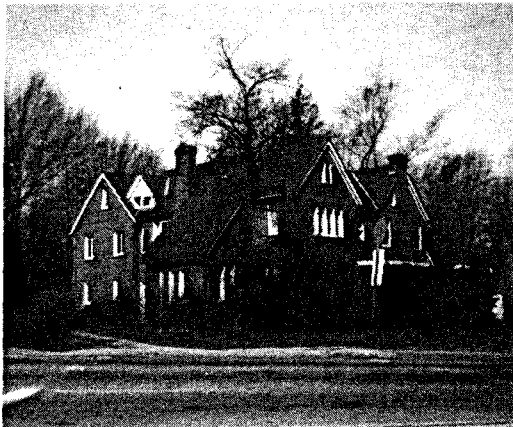
The most outstanding feature to the eye is the front entry. The arches of the entry are of stone work. The upper walls and ceiling of the outer entry are finished in an unusual technique for this section of the country. The work is called Sgraffitto. Sgraffitto is the application of many layers of colored plaster. Each layer is a different color. The plaster is then carved into designs when wet. The colors used here are black and white.



Even though the entrance has this unusual work the rest of the house does not rest upon the elegance of the entry. The whole house has constant reminders of excellent workmanship and materials. The living room fireplace is of Italian marble and the wall above it is paneled. The woodwork on the first floor is light oak. The second floor woodwork shows the patience the painters had in 1915. All the woodwork has thirteen coats of paint. Each coat was carefully sanded before the next coat was applied. The result is similar to marble.

The woodwork in the servants quarter is curly maple. The house is placed in such a way that the lake can be seen from every room.

Fred W. Roberts/Robert Walker - 18096 Clifton Road - Built in 1925



Once upon a time this house was a church manse, the home for the minister of Lake-wood Presbyterian Church.

This all came about when Mrs. John Crider gave a substantial sum toward the purchase of the new manse in memory of her husband. Then Mr. and Mrs. T. F. McDonald followed with another substantial sum. The McDonalds were living in the house at the time it became a manse. They had owned the house for twenty years and left quite a

bit of furniture and draperies in the house, plus the memory of their daughter gracing the staircase as a bride.

The rooms are large and comfortable. Mrs. McDonald said that it is a home that lends itself to gracious living. Mrs. Walker agrees with Mrs. McDonald.

The exterior appearance of the house again points to the fact that a brick house does not show its age as this home is nearing the half century mark.

This is one of three houses in the Park which were built from the same plans. The other two were identical; this one was altered slightly from the original plan. One of the other two was the Hartford house, formerly at 1111 Forest Road, which was razed for the bridge. The other is located at 17810 Lake Avenue.

Alexander Winton/Clark Craig Kimball - 18102 Clifton Road - Built about 1925



Originally this house had only six rooms. The owners through the years have added and enlarged it to its present size. One colorful owner was automobile inventor Alexander Winton. It was one of Winton's wives who built a second floor music room in order to give concerts. It is said the concerts were popular and gladly attended. Winton however found the concerts boring and often fell asleep.

The house has three separate main stairways. One to the concert room which is now the Kimball's master bedroom. The Kimballs have had their hand in changing the house too.

This was the home of an auto baron who helped put the nation on wheels. Now almost forty years later his invention has necessitated a road through dreamy Clifton Park, and his invention has taken a portion of the land he once owned.

Perhaps this is the monument to that "lunatic" that someone proposed be built to the inventor of the automobile - ribbons of concrete going everywhere.

Alexander Winton was born in Scotland and he was educated in the common schools in Glasgow. His career began in the famous Clyde shipyards in marine engineering. He came to the States in 1878; staying a while in New York City and then on to Cleveland by 1885. A partnership was formed with his brother-in-law Thomas Henderson, in the manufacturing of bicycles. The company was named The Winton Bicycle Company. Winton and Henderson rode the financial crest in the bicycle industry and they also experienced the terrible business panic of 1893.

While making bicycles Mr. Winton was experimenting with hydro-carbon engines on the theory they would propel road vehicles. In 1897 Alexander Winton, George H. Brown and Thomas Henderson formed a partnership. Their company was called the Winton Motor Carriage Company. By the end of 1897 the company was well established. In that year 200 cars were made and all sales were made at the factory.

Winton was a true pioneer and he gained a lot of "firsts" to his name throughout his career: 1 - The first reliability run in the history of the American automobile industry was made by Winton in his automobile, 2 - He is credited with the first bonafide sale of an American automobile, 3 - He made the first trip across the continental United States in 1903, and 4 - The first all-American diesel engine was completed in his plant.

In 1920 there was a sharp business slump and the Winton Motor Car Company had to borrow from the banks. The company did not recover quickly enough for the banks to feel secure. It was decided to liquidate and all the company's creditors were paid in full. Messrs. Winton, Henderson and Brown proved their honesty in this sad ending of their business. They felt an obligation to the holders of Winton Company preferred stock and each man bought up the preferred stock with his own money and in this way all the stock was cancelled.

In 1930 General Motors Corporation acquired the Winton Engine Company and this became the Winton Diesel Division of General Motors.

From Mrs. Ruth Sommerlad of The Western Reserve Historical Society Aviation/Auto Division, from Cleveland and Its Environs, by E. M. Avery, and the kindness of Mrs. U. S. Frank Gilbert.

James P. McKinstry/Robert Bowers - 18121 Clifton Road - Built in 1904



There is a corner stone at the right rear corner of this house with the year 1904 chisled into the sandstone block. The front door knocker reads "Oaknoll 1904."

The house is small for a reason. Mr. McKinstry was an invalid and it was thought the country air would aid him. So a small house in the country was built. Either the excitement of the move was too much or the move came too late - Mr. McKinstry lived in the house only one week when he passed away.

For years the house was owned by Dr. Parks and many thought he was the owner/builder.

The house is Western Reserve style with a Greek Revival flavor as you can see from the facade. It is a sweet simple home that commands dignity. The building has been improved through the years - skylights have been put into the roof to bring more light into the second floor rooms. A small bath has been installed on the second floor in what is believed was once storage space. A screened porch at the rear of the house at ground level was also added.

It is all in all a very interesting house and tastefully maintained by the young Robert Bowers.

Mr. McKinstry was Secretary of the old Cleveland Telephone Company which eventually became part of Ohio Bell and A. T. and T.

The McKinstry home was at 18121 Clifton Road. The telephone number there was Lake #1. It was unfortunate that Mr. McKinstry passed away after living in the new house only one week.

His son "Scott" recalls the bull dog he had. The dog hated soapy baths and after every bath the dog would race to the Beach and roll in the dead fish.

From Mr. W. Scott McKinstry, son of Mr. J. P. McKinstry.

John H. Anderson - 18127 West Clifton Road - Built in 1937

The John Anderson house is a replica of the Judge Semple house of old Williamsburg, Virginia.

All the interior and exterior detail of hardware and woodworking is an exact reproduction of the Semple house.

In Williamsburg the Judge Semple house stands on Francis Street and across the street from the Semple house is the Ayscough Shop known for its cabinet making.



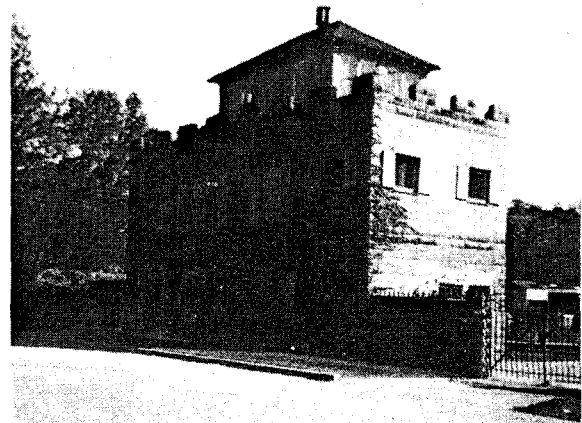
If you have never seen an example of colonial architecture, stroll past the J. H. Anderson home.

Alexander Winton/Vernon Stouffer - 17830 Beach Road - Built about 1912

Alexander Winton bought two water lots about 1912 and built a sandstone building to house sailing gear.

Later a second floor was added to the building. With this addition the Winton children were able to use the boathouse as a place to change for bathing on Clifton Beach.

Legend tells that the boathouse is a replica of a ruined castle on the island of Cumbrae off the coast of Scotland.



A beamed ceiling in exquisite plaster work is in the main room plus an interesting fireplace. The fireplace is decorated with the symbol of the acorn, meaning perfect achievement; the rose, the national flower of England; the thistle, the national flower of Scotland; and a grid of St. Hubert in the same plaster work which looks like finely carved oak. The building had a penthouse added in the 1930's. The house was then a retreat for Eliot Ness who was Safety Director for the City of Cleveland in 1935.

The "castle" gloom of the boathouse has been chased away by Mr. and Mrs. Stouffer's use of paint, flowers and a lived in appearance.



This house has a deep sweep of front lawn and a commanding view of the Yacht Club Island to the rear.

It is a formal Southern Colonial style house. The front double doors can be flung open to welcome guests as hospitality was the keynote in southern homes. The front entry double doors are framed in a leaded beveled glass transome and side panels. This gives ample light to the reception hall.

The living room is to the rear of the house and beyond is an enclosed porch for year around use. This is where the river activity can be seen. Many southern homes were located on rivers.

The morning room also has a view of the river and looks like it would be a room to chase the morning blues away. The kitchen is large and has been modernized in the "His and Hers" mode - there are two sinks and two stoves!

The bedrooms are large and comfortable. The master bedroom is the largest with fireplace, built in wardrobe, bath, plus a sun deck.

A woman's touch, Mrs. Avellone's idea, is a laundry room on the second floor. The room was originally a bathroom.

The garage has a large wooden disk in the floor. This is a turn around for the old electric carriage. Mr. Dorn and Walter Baker worked together on many inventive projects.

"On the night of September 27, 1906 a young couple left the Unitarian Church on Euclid and East 82nd Street, where they had just been married by the Reverend Minot Simons. That was the only Unitarian Church in those days. A Peerless auto brought them to a fine home, with its two tall pillars, which the young man had built for his bride. Who were the lucky people? Miss Helen Louise Jeschke, sadly but willingly leaving her post as a training teacher in the old Cleveland Normal School, and Fred C. Dorn, happy to have been admitted to the Legal Bar and being treasurer of the American Ball Bearing Company.

"The home at that time stood quite isolated. Toward the lake, but not cutting off a fine view of it for the Dorns, stood the old Coffinberry house, then occupied by the Stowe family, and toward the east 300 feet of great oak trees, where later the Parson's home was erected.

"Autos were few in those days and the music lovers like the Dorns made their way to the streetcar on Sloane Avenue, across empty fields and a narrow boardwalk across the Nickle Plate Railroad tracks. The operas, symphony concerts and the fine lieder singer programs were all held at that time in the Gray's Armory on old Bolivar Street. Many a concert night the Clifton Park music lovers had to work their way through heavy snow, in evening clothes, over the unclean paths to their homes in the Park. But who was not happy to take this into account when planning to hear Gadski, Sembrich, Schumman-Heinck and so many of the great artists and conductors.

"A Baker Electric soon helped to take these trips over town more easily and we often wondered later how this little electric coupe could take us these long distances through rain and snow.

"Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baker lived in the original club house - Clifton Club at that time, the Jennings and the Norths on the lakefront and the Benes' in what was known as the lovely "Cameo" house. All this made for happy neighboring. The Dorns, let us not talk of age, lived in their home until the year 1941 - then bought the place on Edgewater Drive, and are now living in a comparatively small (?) house on Lake Avenue.

"The forty years in Clifton Park are happy memories and have also a tinge of sadness with so many of the early settlers of those days gone."

From a letter written by Fred C. Dorn, June 17, 1964.

Harry Parsons/Rene Morel - 17890 Beach Road - Built in 1911

The interior of this house was far more grand than the exterior but it must be remembered that Clifton Park was "country" in 1911, so the low rambling house was proper for the setting.

First impressions are important and this was achieved in the detail of the reception hall. It was a large entry with a storybook staircase and balcony - very elegant. Here are some interesting facts about the house: There was broken pediment doorway detail; a free standing fountain in the dining room; the living room walls were covered with drapery of pinch pleated gold damask and the living room had a seven foot hand carved fireplace of Carrara marble; there was a walk in safe the size of a large closet; the house had a hotel type vacuum cleaning system; in the kitchen there was a built-in refrigerator which could hold 2,000 pounds of meat at one time (a teenager's dream of plenty of hamburgers on hand); there was a warming oven the size of two dishwashers. In use to the last and



labeled from the Parsons' day was an intercom system for all rooms in the house; every bedroom in the house had a fireplace except the maid's rooms; for the men of the house there was a bowling alley.

A real estate agent has said it took almost two hours to show the house; it totaled some 36 rooms. The house was expansive because perhaps this is the way the Parsons were - room for entertaining. The refrigerator size bears this out. This house was about the only one in the Park that rated the "mansion" title.

The house was torn down and the property re-alloted to contain four lots; the name is Clifton Park Lane. Mr. Morel built one house and since then two more houses have been built.

Mr. Parsons was born in Cleveland, Ohio and educated in the Cleveland schools.

His early career was a passenger agent of Cleveland Lorain and Wheeling Railroad. He also worked for the Lorain Steel Company. He was a cartoonist and illustrator in New York City. In Cleveland he was confidential secretary to Senator M. A. Hanna.

Mr. Parsons held memberships in the following clubs and organizations: The Roadside Gentleman's Driving Club; The Cleveland Athletic Club; Clifton Club; Cleveland Automobile Club; Cleveland Yachting Club; Tippecanoe Club; Western Reserve Club of Cleveland; Automobile Club of Southern California and the Country Club of Sault Ste. Marie.

Mr. Parsons enjoyed fishing, hunting, baseball, powerboat racing, automobile touring and sailing his twin screw yacht Mahapa.

From the Book of Clevelanders of 1914, by Burrows Bros.

Charles H. Church/Robert Scott - 18131 West Clifton Road - Built in 1901



The original house was not as large as we see it today.

The living room is a large pleasant room with a beamed ceiling. The dining room is spacious with wonderful warm wood-work of cherry wood. Each corner of the dining room has fluted pilasters of the cherry wood capped with Corinthian capitals. The moulding is deep and of the same wood. The wall covering is believed to be the original. It is a mellowed scenic tapestry.

The "conversation" piece is the solarium with a domed ceiling of "Tiffany" glass. To protect the delicate glass there is an outer skylight. It is similar to the dome of the Cleveland Trust Bank, but here the feeling is more intimate and the colors are warmer. The dome is the jewel and its setting is a deep collar of Circassian walnut. All the woodwork in the room is in the same rich wood. The fireplace has a generous mantle shelf. The fireplace facing is imported roman style brick.

When the Walter Baker family owned the house, Mr. Baker had the house wired for all kinds of bells, intercomms and signals. One private telephone system ran from this house to Mrs. Baker, Sr. who lived at 1101 Forest Road (William Hülligan's).

In the garage is a large concrete and steel disk in the floor. This was a turn around for the electric car. Mr. Baker owned the Baker Motor Company, maker of an electric car or carriage. The turn around apparently is a Baker idea.

It has been uncovered in the interview with Mr. J. A. Wigmore that he owned this house before the Bakers. It was Mr. Wigmore who enlarged the house and made it stylish and attractive. Mr. Wigmore had the "Tiffany" dome installed in the solarium. Then he sold the house to the Bakers.

For many years there has been a rumor that this house has secret passageways and secret rooms. There are no such things in the house. However, perhaps it was the bells and signal systems that Mr. Baker installed that lent mystery to the house.

Since this house is so widely known as the Baker house, the biography of Mr. Baker follows.

Mr. Baker was born in New Hampshire in 1867 and died at his home 18131 West Clifton Road in 1955.

Mr. Baker's father, George W. Baker, and Thomas W. White invented a sewing machine at Orange, Massachusetts. The two men with Rollin White came to Cleveland in 1867 to organize the White Manufacturing Company, parent of the White Sewing Machine Company.

Mr. Baker was one of the pioneers in the automobile industry. He built his first electric car in 1898. His great passion was the electric automobile. His disappointment was keen when Thomas Edison was not able to invent a battery of great enough capacity to compete with the gasoline driven auto. Mr. Baker's aid to Elmer A. Sperry brought about the invention of the gyroscope. Baker patented a steering knuckle for the front wheels of automobiles and it was adopted by the entire industry.

In Mr. Baker's earlier years he was a sailboat enthusiast. He also maintained an interest in astronomy, short-wave radio, accurate time pieces and aviation.

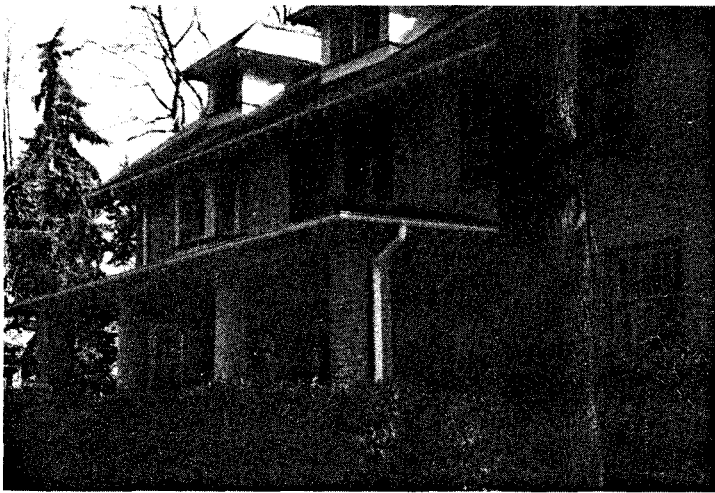
Here is a quote from a friend of Mr. Baker's. "He carried his scientific approach to the heating problem of his home in Clifton Park. The boiler was a twelve section, gas fired steam boiler with standard individual burners for each

section. On the outside of his house was mounted a tall, accurate glass thermometer, which he checked periodically and consulted a certain chart to determine how many of the burner sections of the boiler should be turned on, so that when the thermostat in the living room called for heat, the steaming up time of the boiler would be the same regardless of outside weather conditions. This is the principle of some present day controls.

"Mr. Baker most certainly was among the great personages who contributed to our American way of life. Only time will reveal the magnitude of his comprehension of those applications of the natural laws to our scientific development of the century."

From Mrs. Ruth Sommerlad of The Western Reserve Historical Society Auto/Aviation Museum and the kindness of Mrs. E. J. Skiba.

Henry W. Stecher/Leonard Bills - 18139 West Clifton Road - Built in 1905



This is another older home. It is suspected that some of the fine Victorian features have been removed, but the main charm of the house remains.

The front entry has a fine beveled glass door and companion side panels of the glass on the outer entry wall. The woodwork throughout most of the house is mahogany. The reception room is large. It has a crystal chandelier and a floor to ceiling mirror. The staircase is graceful, and at the landing a large window brings ample light down to the

reception room. On either side of the staircase a stairway leads to the lower level.

The living room has a black and white marble fireplace which is mirrored from floor to ceiling. There is a bay window with casement windows in this room. Through double folding french doors is the library, with built-in book shelves and bar with a fireplace adding warmth to the room.

The dining room has a deep beamed ceiling and wide mouldings. These same mouldings are in the reception room and the living room. The dining room is paneled in Circassian walnut and still contains the original dining room furniture. It was custom made of Circassian walnut to fit the room. The table is a massive pedestal design. There are ten chairs still in sturdy "health" and a buffet of great length. The room has a crystal chandelier and double folding french doors to close the room from the front entry.

The 1905 kitchen has been modernized. It is large with a breakfast area, butler's pantry and a cold room storage room with a wine rack included. The butler's pantry

has chopping blocks, ample cupboards, drawers, sink and a steam heat food warmer. To accommodate the leaves of the dining room table there is a special built-in closet in the pantry.

Up the front staircase, at the landing the stairway goes left and right on to another large hallway. At one side of the second floor is the master suite. It has a den, bath and bedroom. A fireplace is in the room and there are twin closets with cedar closets beyond the regular space. The other part of the second floor holds three bedrooms, bath and linen room. All rooms are well lighted and pleasant.

The third floor houses a ballroom, maid quarters and storage space. The basement has a dance room, a recreation room with mirrored back bar and a fireplace. Both rooms are large.

The garage has sleeping quarters above for the chauffeur. Here the conversation piece is the tiny bathtub - but it is a tub.

Original owner unknown/Wilbur J. Wright - 17855 Beach Road - Built in (unknown)

Built or improved by George and Henry Gerlach this house was a batten board shack and has been on this site for about one hundred years. In remodeling the house it was found to have the studding of passenger boats.



The only knowledge of the house goes back to the days of Henry and George Gerlach. Who lived in the house before, no one knows. The property was owned by H. D. Coffinberry and later by C. B. Stowe. It was Mr. Coffinberry who insisted when buying the property that it be unrestricted land. Mr. Stowe gave the Gerlachs permission to live in the house for their lifetime after which the 100 x 100 foot lot would revert to the owner of the larger lot at the top of the hill which is 17884 Beach Road.

This property has never been part of Clifton Park and the little house on the river is not Clifton Lagoon property either. It is all in Lakewood proper.

Mr. Wright said when the Gerlachs had the house there was a slip for a fishing boat right next to it. It dug into where the Lagoon road is now. The Gerlach sailboat was always tied up out front on the river.

Once there was a pier in front of the house and this was the ferry landing for crossing to the Yacht Club Island. The ferry was a rowboat piloted by the Gerlachs. The pier has sunk and rotted away but there are a few traces of it under water.

Mrs. Wright said that the house was once partitioned into five little rooms. Cardboard was used. A pot bellied stove was in the living room. Mr. Wright said the indoor water supply was a five gallon can hung in a corner.

In the years after the Gerlachs were gone, Dr. Robert Gardner owned the property and he ran a gasoline station for the boats on Rocky River.

For the suspected one hundred years the house has been standing it has gained three walls and three roofs. Mr. and Mrs. Wright have remodeled the old place and made it very attractive. The interior walls are paneled in wood. Windows are full fashioned. The property is now separate from the mother lot on the hill. The river property has its own gas well. Heating and cooking is no problem here.

A little known fact about the house is that the early meetings of the Inter-Lake Yachting Association were held here. The Gerlachs had an active hand in it becoming a reality.

Other Clifton Park houses that catch the eye or are worth seeking out:

The little Spanish style house at 1192 West Clifton Boulevard. This house was designed and built by Herman Albrecht in 1920. Mr. Albrecht was a fine architect and he designed other homes in the Cleveland area. This was Robert Albrecht's boyhood home and now the home of Robert Tremlin.

Following his father's profession is Robert Albrecht. Bob's home is a remodeled coach house at 17861 Lake Road. The little building has all of Bob's ideas in it, but neither the interior or the exterior is of any particular period or style, just interesting to see.

Another coach house is at 1102-1/2 Forest Road. This has been remodeled too. In fact, it no longer has the outline of the coach house. It is disguised in modern lines inside and outside. Now Robert Weber's.

The new modern A design house of Jim McDowell is an eye catcher from the new road. After a long hard summer in 1965 Jim can use the #1115 Forest Road address again. He is back at the same address but in a different house. The new road forced the original house to be moved to 1122 Forest Road.

The Langbridge house at 18110 Clifton Road is an example of a French country house. Notice the floor to ceiling windows. If the house were in its native setting there would be gardens surrounding the house to put those lovely windows to the purpose intended.

The house at 1104 Forest Road is an early Park home. It was built by Mr. Dunbar who was an uncle of Mrs. B. J. Guthery. The house is a center hall colonial and has fine square rooms. It once had a front porch which was the gathering place for the Louis Hill family, who once lived there, and their friends.

Now the house is the church manse of the Lakewood Congregational Church. A dignified "occupation" for a fine old home.

From a Cleveland Public Library file entitled, Historical Buildings, by Arthur Nelson Oviatt, it was found that the following Clifton Park homes were listed as being worthy of note:

F. A. Glidden residence (17840 Lake Road) architect A. N. Oviatt
Clifton Club (no longer standing) architect C. W. Hopkinson*
F. C. Case residence (17860 Lake Road) architect G. F. Hammond
C. B. Stowe residence (no longer standing) architect not listed
Paul North residence (17848 Lake Road) architect not listed
George H. Fish residence (17844 Lake Road) architect G. F. Hammond
T. R. Morgan residence (17866 Lake Road) architect not listed
J. B. Roberts residence (17863 Lake Road) architect A. N. Oviatt

Mr. Arthur Oviatt's file in the History Department of the Cleveland Public Library is an index mainly to Ohio Architect and Builder magazine. Mr. Oviatt was a prominent Cleveland architect.

From the History Department of the Cleveland Public Library.

*The old Clifton Club was described as having spacious verandas, cobblestone columns (exterior), reception hall, billiard room, main and two private dining rooms, grill room, large ballroom, five guest chambers and the third floor was the servants quarters.

Edgar Eliotte Adams

"Mr. Adams was General Superintendent of The Cleveland Hardware Co. He was also a Director and member of the Executive Committee of the company.

"Mr. Adams was born in Cleveland, Ohio and educated in the Cleveland schools. Listed here are Mr. Adams' civic interests and associations: Member of the Chamber of Commerce; National Civic Federation of New York; Trustee and member of the Executive Committee of the Legal Aid Society; Trustee and member of the Executive Committee of Hiram House Social Settlement, and a Trustee of Clifton Park."*

All who knew Mr. Adams, especially Clifton Park residents, admired and respected him.

Mr. Adams' Clifton Park home was at 1124 Forest Road.

*From the Book of Clevelanders of 1914, Burrows Bros. Company.

Herman J. Albrecht

"Herman Albrecht was born in Massillon, Ohio in 1885. He graduated from Massillon High School in 1902 and from the School of Architecture at Ohio State University in 1908. He was elected to the American Institute of Architects in 1924.

"A fifty year career in architecture was started when the young Albrecht went to work for the Columbus firm of Howell and Thomas. He soon became their Chief Draftsman. In 1915 he was sent to their Cleveland office with several men to design and supervise the construction of some fine homes in the Fairmont Boulevard - Cedar Road area. Being well received in Cleveland, Mr. Albrecht decided to stay and in 1919 he opened his own architectural office on Euclid Avenue. The following year he built a small house for himself in Clifton Park.

"An exhibit of photographs and original drawings of residences and other buildings conceived by Mr. Albrecht were on display in the Massillon Museum in March and April, 1966. An astonishing output of over seven hundred commissions of great artistic and technical merit can be credited to Mr. Albrecht.

"Of some five hundred residences in Mr. Albrecht's portfolio, at least seventy-five were built in Massillon, more than fifty are in the Hills and Dales and Avondale sections of Canton, Ohio. There are Albrecht designed homes in Lakewood, Rocky River, Shaker Heights and other Cleveland suburbs, as well as in Dover, New Philadelphia, Mansfield, Wooster, Alliance and Warren, Ohio.

"Mr. Albrecht said that he enjoyed more than any other kind of work the designing of fine homes in the traditional styles. You really get a chance to live in a home before the owners do. You live with the plans for months, changing and developing them and sometimes you hate to give them up to the owners.*

His home in Clifton Park was at 1192 West Clifton Boulevard.

*From the Massillon Museum brochure about Mr. Albrecht, and the kindness of his son, Robert S. Albrecht.

Alonzo F. Allen

"Mr. Allen joined the United States Steel Corporation in 1890 in Chicago. He held positions in the purchasing, treasury and secretarial departments.

"In 1900 Mr. Allen joined the American Steel and Wire Company in Cleveland. He was a clerk in the Secretary-Treasurer's office and the following year he became the Assistant Treasurer. Mr. Allen held the offices of Secretary and Treasurer of the American Steel and Wire Company from 1918 until his retirement in 1952.

"Mr. Allen's civic activities in Cleveland and Lakewood were: Director of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce; member of Lakewood Congregational Church; Chairman of the Lakewood Y. M. C. A. Board of Managers; American Red Cross; President of the Lakewood School Board (1920-1933)."*

Mr. Allen's Clifton Park home was at 18101 Clifton Road.

*From Cleveland Plain Dealer and Cleveland Press.

Delbert M. Bader

Mrs. Warner Bishop, daughter of Mr. D. M. Bader, reported that Mr. Bader was an attorney. He had his office in the Public Square Building for fifty years. He also served as a judge in the Cleveland courts. He was a quiet and studious person and enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Mrs. Bishop mentioned that their home once had a front porch. The house suffered a fire and the porch was either involved in the fire or just removed as part of the remodeling which followed. This occurred when the Baders no longer lived there. As a schoolgirl, Mrs. Bishop remembers taking the shortcut to school through Pumphries farm.

The Baders' Clifton Park home was at 18135 Clifton Road.

George W. Cady

"Mr. Cady was a native of Dudley, Massachusetts. He was born there in 1840.

"In 1858 he came to Cleveland and entered the wholesale shoe firm of Burgert, Adams and Company. After ten years of serving as clerk and travelling salesman for the company, Mr. Cady started his own business under the name of George W. Cady, Manufacturers Agent. By 1878 Mr. Cady had prospered and his business was well recognized in the wholesale shoe trade under the name of George W. Cady and Company. In 1895 the business was incorporated as the Cady-Iverson Shoe Company.

"From a small beginning the business has steadily grown until the trade now (1910) reaches a million dollars annually. For over a half century Mr. Cady has carried on his business on Water Street (West 9th Street).

"Mr. Cady is a member of the Union Club, Roadside Club and the Clifton Club.

"Mr. Cady is extremely modest and retiring in disposition. His genuine personal worth, however, has gained him unqualified regard as one of the representative men and citizens of Cleveland who for a half century has made his home here."*

Mr. Cady's Clifton Park home was at 17891 Lake Road. The house was destroyed because of the road and bridge.

*From a History of Cleveland, Ohio, by Samuel Orth of the Cleveland Bar, Volume III, and the kindness of Mr. Wallace Snow.

George W. Codrington

"Mr. Codrington stepped into the Cleveland scene as an employee of Alexander Winton, however, Mr. Codrington proved his mechanical and business ability on his own merits.

"When the Winton Motor Company became the Cleveland Diesel Division of General Motors Corporation, Mr. Codrington was made Vice President and General Manager of the Cleveland plant. He liked people and he knew his employees by their first names. He never lost the common touch.

"It has been said of Mr. Codrington that he was a cross between a Missouri mule and a Kansas cyclone; because of this many people thought him unapproachable. When a favor was asked of Mr. Codrington he did his utmost to please and a little bit more. He was interested in his neighbor's successes and he would take the time to congratulate them in person."*

Mr. Codrington was a Clifton Lagoon occupant at 17830 Beach Road.

*From Boys Grown Tall, a Story of American Initiative, Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1944, and from Clifton Lagoon neighbors.

John A. Donaldson

"Mr. Donaldson was a native of Pennsylvania. He was born in 1865.

"He learned all phases of the coal business in Pittsburgh. In 1893 Mr. Donaldson came to Cleveland to take charge of the Pittsburgh, Fairport and Northwestern Dock Company and the Pittsburgh and Chicago Gas and Coal Company. These two firms merged in 1899 and became the Pittsburgh Coal Company.

Mr. Donaldson was given charge of the lake department and made general agent for the company.

"He also had interests in the Huron Iron Mining Company, the MacDonald Mining Company, the Groveland Steamship Company and the Western Reserve Insurance Company.

"Mr. Donaldson belonged to the Clifton Club, the Cleveland Athletic Club and the Cleveland Coal Club. He was a thirty-second degree Mason, a member of the Pittsburgh lodge and he was also a Shriner.

"It has been said of Mr. Donaldson - he is one of the strong men of the city and a recognized factor in the coal and mining interests here and in Pittsburgh."

Mr. Donaldson's Clifton Park home was at 17830 Lake Road.

*From A History of Cleveland, Ohio, by Samuel Orth of the Cleveland Bar, Volume II and the kindness of Mr. Wallace Snow.

Roland P. Francis

To many "Rolly" was the odd figure on a bicycle; carrying a small dog in the forward basket, according to Fredrick P. "Bud" Winkler, who sailed with Rolly.

Rolly was a gas victim of the first World War. He lived on his Army pension and wore Army issued clothing. His younger years were spent learning to sail under the direction of George Gerlach.

Mr. Francis' entree to the Beach was the ownership of the 1128 Forest Road lot (Dr. William Kaylor). His home was on Granger Avenue. The City of Lakewood used the Granger Avenue house for Operation Lakewood. This was the rehabilitation of older Lakewood houses to illustrate what could be accomplished.

Albert Gehring

Mr. Gehring was a native of Cleveland. He was educated in the Cleveland schools and a graduate of Harvard University, according to Mrs. Charles H. Reed, his daughter.

Mr. Gehring was an author, a composer and a lecturer. He was a civic minded person who acted quietly in his gifts to charity.

He was honest, kind and patient in his dealings with others and he gave people much of his time and thought when they came to him for counsel. Albert Gehring believed that people should try to develop themselves to their fullest potentialities; spiritually, mentally and physically. He lived according to his beliefs.

Mr. Gehring was a special lecturer at W. R. U. College for Women from 1900 to 1902 (Flora Stone Mather). He served as a member of the Cleveland School Council (Cleveland Board of Education) from 1902 to 1904. He was School Council President 1903-1904.

Mr. Gehring felt that in a republican government like ours the individual had responsibilities as well as privileges and should, if possible, contribute actively to that government.

Mr. Gehring was a Clifton Park lot owner from 1902 until his death in 1925.

Louis Hill

Mr. Hill was a native of Cleveland; born in 1873 on Cleveland's old west side. He served in the Spanish-American War, seeing active duty in the Phillipine Islands for over a year, according to his daughter, Mrs. W. C. Sessions. Mr. Hill was felled with malaria, was returned to the States to recuperate and discharged from the Army. After regaining his health he returned to his business, The Cleveland Tanning Company.

The Hill family settled in Clifton Park in 1916 at 1104 Forest Road.

In 1919, when Women's Suffrage was winning its stand, Mrs. E. G. Gilbert and Mrs. Walter Waite started a good government drive and they asked Mr. Hill to be their candidate for Mayor of Lakewood. Many prominent Lakewood people joined the drive, a spirited campaign resulted, and Mr. Hill was elected.

Mr. Hill was Mayor for two terms and he also served in the Lakewood City Council for two years. He is remembered for his kindness to all with whom he associated. Mr. Hill was not a public speaker and he kept his speeches short. (This alone would make him popular!)

Jacob Hoffman

Mr. Hoffman was Treasurer of the Society for Savings Bank, now the Society National Bank of Cleveland, according to Muriel Hoffman Lehr (Mrs. Edwin), his daughter.

The hobby of gardening took some of Mr. Hoffman's time, but most of all his interest was his family. All the photographs that his daughter has of her father are with the family in their garden or on Clifton Beach.

Mr. Hoffman served on the Lakewood School Board. Both he and Mrs. Hoffman were charter members of the Lakewood Congregational Church. Many prayer meetings were held in their home before the Church had a building of its own.

Mr. Hoffman and his family were pioneer residents of Clifton Park. Their home at 18141 Clifton Road was one of the original seven early homes built on Clifton Road through the years of 1900 to 1907.

Benjamin Franklin Hopkins

"Mr. Hopkins was a native of Cleveland, and he was educated in the Cleveland Public Schools. He attended Western Reserve Academy and Western Reserve University.

"Mr. Hopkins was a businessman with many associations. He was Vice President of the Grant Motor Car Corporation; President of the Grant Truck Sales Company; Secretary of the Belt and Terminal Realty Company; Secretary and Treasurer of the Hopkins Holding Company; Secretary and Treasurer of The Columbia Axle Company; Director of the Cleveland Underground Rapid Transit Railroad Company and Director of The Republic Motor Sales Company.

"Mr. Hopkins found his chief work in the building of railroads. He was one of the promoters of the Belt Line Railway of Cleveland. Mr. Hopkins was the first President of The Graphite Bronze Company when it opened in 1919."*

Mr. Hopkins' Clifton Park home was at 18150 Clifton Road.

*From Cleveland and Its Environs, by E. M. Avery, and the kindness of Mrs. F. U. S. Gilbert.

Robinson G. Jones

Mr. Jones was a native of Kansas City, Missouri. His early education was in southern Ohio where his father served in the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

By the time R. G. Jones was sixteen years old he was teaching in a rural school in Ohio and for the following fifty years education was his life; teaching and attending college. Mr. Jones received his B.A. degree from Ohio Northern University in 1894 and his Master of Arts degree from Columbia University in 1912. Later Mr. Jones was honored with the degree of Doctor of Pedagogy from Ohio Northern and with the degree of Doctor of Law from Western Reserve University.

In 1917 Mr. Jones became superintendent of the Cleveland Public Schools. Under his guidance the Cleveland schools realized a growth in the public school size, in the quality of service and in community goodwill. The excellence of the schools came to be recognized throughout the United States and in foreign lands. Visitors came from Europe, Australia, South Africa, China, Japan and neighboring American countries.

Typical of the kind of work Mr. Jones originated, re-organized and improved was the development of the junior high schools, the Jane Addams Vocational School for Girls, school gardens, extension of health service, development of the fine arts, expansion of the trade and technical schools, growth in the number and services of Parent Teacher groups, special attention to the needs of the physically and mentally handicapped, improved libraries and visual aids.

Superintendent Jones created weekly meetings of his staff. It was in the staff meetings that the personality and professional insight of Mr. Jones the man was revealed.

He gave full credit for superior work, not only to this inner staff but to the principals and teachers throughout the system. The staff meetings were addressed by noted scholars, educators, leaders in science and industry, musicians, artists, physicians, newspaper editors - leaders and specialists in all fields.

Among many recognitions and awards, Mr. Jones prized most the Award by Columbia University in 1933 of the Nicholas Murray Butler Medal "for excellence in service in Public School Administration in the United States." Almost equal to this medal, he prized the Presidency of the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association, the nation's highest recognition of the work of a superintendent of schools.

Mr. Jones' good humor, goodwill, his generosity, his charm, and his love for people were prized by all who knew him. The Robinson G. Jones public school of Cleveland was named for him. It is at 4550 West 150th Street.

Mr. Jones' Clifton Park home was at 17909 Lake Road.

From A Tribute to Robinson Godfrey Jones (1871-1938); and from his son, R. Stanley Jones.

Alfred Jacob Kroenke

Mr. Kroenke was in the foundry business, being associated with the F. Hohlfelder Company.

The main talent of Mr. Kroenke was to enter a firm which was losing money and through his knowledge of the business and hard work put the company on a paying basis once more. Mr. Kroenke did this with many companies in the Cleveland area, according to Stella Heil, his daughter.

Mr. Kroenke was a quiet person, yet a man who made lasting friendships.

One group of his friends was the Clifton Park Porch Climbers. This was a Monday evening and Saturday afternoon card playing group. They were a devoted group of men and they played cards together for many, many years. Some of the men were: Mr. North, Mr. Stowe, Mr. L. A. Reed, Mr. Gresham, Mr. Alonzo Snyder, Dr. McCartney, Mr. Nelson Newcomb, Sr. and later many replacements.

Mr. and Mrs. Kroenke were very active in establishing St. Peter's Episcopal Church. They were the early members and they helped build the church building.

Mr. Kroenke was a charter member of the Keswick Golf Club. This was an interesting little nine hole course. The club house, which later was the Freeland Realty office, stood at Beachcliff Boulevard and Lake Road in Rocky River. The golf course and its grounds extended to where the Rocky River public beach is today. There were small amusements for the members' children also. Now the whole land site is gone because of the new bridge and the approach ramps, and of course the Beachcliff allotment of homes. This country club was in business before 1911.

Mr. Kroenke was a member of the Union Club, the Westwood Country Club and the Seaview Club at Absecon, New Jersey.

When Mr. Kroenke built his home at 17820 Lake Road, he also had a stairway built down to the small beach which had formed at the foot of his lakefront property. To insure the beach staying, Mr. Kroenke directed a breakwater to be built just off-shore. Captain Simonson was the person called in to do this work. To this day the breakwater has protected this property and aided other properties nearby.

Mrs. Patrick J. McMyler

Mrs. McMyler was principal of Clark School and their annual picnic was held at Eels Point (across the river from Clifton Beach). It was from this high place that Mrs. McMyler first saw Clifton Beach.

Mrs. Raymond Lawrence, her daughter, reported that after her marriage to Mr. McMyler, who was a charter member of the Clifton Club, Mrs. McMyler began her generous beautifying program of Clifton Beach.

Each spring Mrs. McMyler and Mr. E. E. Adams planned a project to improve Clifton Beach. Over a ten year period Mrs. McMyler gave Mr. Adams a substantial amount of money to pay for the improvements they had planned. Mrs. McMyler gave Clifton Beach the boardwalk (the original one), all the willow trees, the fire-places and the early picnic tables.

It is rather pleasant to know that the items we use on the Beach and the shade under which we sit just didn't happen, but were put there by Mrs. McMyler's generosity.

Mrs. McMyler was a Clifton Club member.

Isaac Stevens Metcalf

Mr. Metcalf was known to most as "Ike." So many here in Clifton Park discussed books with him and learned a great deal from the discussions; thus spurring the reader on to further reading.

Ike was also famous for his out of season swims down at the Beach or wherever he would be in November or March.

Career-wise Ike was a newspaper man. In his early career he was editor of newspapers in the western cities of Shawnee, Oklahoma; Enid, Oklahoma; and Missoula, Montana. In 1909 he joined the Cleveland Plain Dealer as a special reporter and later held a series of editorships within the newspaper. In 1919, Ike became a partner in the Francis R. Morison Company, a syndicated bank advertising company. Ike held this position until he retired in 1951.

Roelif Loveland of the Plain Dealer wrote in his column of Ike that many Clevelanders treasure the sonnets, odes and imaginative letters Ike wrote to them when they were ill or when they were away from home. Mr. Loveland goes on - "I possess none of

Ike's sonnets, but I shall always remember this bald headed, square jawed gentleman with the laughing eyes, who lived life to the fullest - and who enjoyed every minute of it. "

Mr. Metcalf was very aware of the nature surrounding him and he was fascinated with the changing seasons. He was also a knowledgeable bird watcher.

For more than thirty years Mr. Metcalf served the Lakewood Library as a Trustee and as a Chairman of the Board of Trustees. *

Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf's Clifton Park home was at 18171 Clifton Road.

*From Isaac S. H. Metcalf, son of Mr. Metcalf; Henry H. Metcalf, nephew of Mr. Metcalf; and Roelif Loveland's article of January 4, 1965 in the Plain Dealer.

Monsieur Murphy

Mrs. E. C. Kendel mentions the lifeguard at Clifton Beach in 1917 in her letter. Out of some inquiries and a big helping hand from Harvey Reynolds (a later Beach lifeguard) came the lead to Sister St. Ann of St. Joseph Academy, Msgr. Murphy's sister, who gave the following information.

Mr. Murphy studied for the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary. In the summer he worked as a lifeguard at Clifton Beach during the seasons of 1917, 1918, 1919, and 1920. He was ordained on May 21, 1921. Father Murphy served as assistant pastor at St. Agnes Church for thirteen years.

Studies were continued at Catholic University of America in Washington, D. C. Father Murphy was appointed by Bishop Schrembs to serve as Director of Catholic Charities of the Cleveland Diocese. He was Director for ten years. During this time Father Murphy also served for one year in Yugoslavia on the Bishops' War Relief Council. This is a national office.

Father Murphy was appointed Monsigneur of St. Ignatius Church on March 15, 1950. He served in his church in this office until his death in 1963.

Monsieur Murphy was loved by all who touched his life. Back in 1921 many Clifton Park friends attended his Ordination ceremony.

Charles E. Newell

Mr. Newell was a native of Illinois. He came to Cleveland in 1883. About 1907 Mr. Newell established his own business, The Cleveland Pump and Supply Company. The company manufactured special automatic pumps for heating systems, according to Mrs. Donald Harbaugh, his daughter.

Mr. Newell was a member of the Cleveland Engineering Society; the Electrical League; the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce; the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce; the Rotary Club and the Civic Club. He was a charter member and Trustee of the

Lakewood Congregational Church. Mr. Newell served as councilman on the first Lakewood Council in 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Newell opened their home many times for prayer meetings for the newly founded Lakewood Congregational Church. It was in their home that the church charter was written and the membership signed.

Mr. Newell's Clifton Park home was at 1113 Forest Road. The house was destroyed because of the new road and bridge.

Robert B. Ranney

Mr. R. B. Ranney was a native of Cleveland. The fifth of six sons, he was born in 1871 on Detroit Avenue at about 91st Street. He married Florence Jenkins, born in 1874.

According to his son, Philip Ranney, the Detroit Avenue property ran through from Detroit to Madison Avenues. When the Nickel Plate Railroad acquired the right of way through the property and cut it in half the place was ruined as a residence.

Mr. Ranney was President of The Ranney Fish Company, the largest fresh water fishery in the country at the time. Fish were handled in an advanced method for that period, being cleaned and refrigerated at the warehouse as soon as the tugs brought the catch in.

Mr. and Mrs. Ranney built the house at 1115 Forest Road in Clifton Park in 1905. There were no sidewalks, only dirt roads. In those days, W. C. Finch was the maintenance caretaker. He sprinkled the roads in summer to lay the dust and plowed the later installed sidewalks in winter by horse and wooden plow.

Mr. Ranney made the remark when the house was completed, "We're moving into the woods." The house was moved to 1122 Forest Road when the freeway over Rocky River took the location at 1115 Forest. Thus in two generations adverse possession spoiled the house of Mr. Ranney's father and the one he had built.

Captain Niels Simonson

Captain Simonson was born in Marstal, Denmark. He came from a country of salt water sailing and he enjoyed boating here on Lake Erie.

Captain Simonson worked in marine construction; building breakwaters and piers. He was President of the American Construction Company, according to Mrs. Frank Mackeigan, his daughter.

One job that the Captain remembered well was the moving of the Cleveland Yacht Club clubhouse from the foot of East Ninth Street out to the Yacht Club Island in Rocky River. The clubhouse was mounted on scows and floated out to the island. Another well remembered commission was the improvement of the Rocky River channel pier.

The home which he built in Clifton Park was called Rebahus, named for the town of Reba, Denmark where Mrs. Simonson was born.

Captain Simonson was an outgoing personality, and fearless. When a distress call came from a boat off the Rocky River harbor or wherever he might be, Captain Simonson would answer the call when others feared the rough seas.

The Captain's Clifton Park home was at 17906 Lake Road.

Alfred Burns Smythe

"Mr. Smythe was well known for his outstanding work in real estate.

"Before entering the realty field Mr. Smythe spent four years teaching school in country districts in Ohio. He later became principal of the high school at Nevada, Ohio, his hometown. This academic work was done before his college studies at Oberlin College. Mr. Smythe was a member of the Class of 1902 of Oberlin. However he left the college after three years of study to take up the real estate business. He was so successful that the Cleveland Trust Company hired him to organize and manage their realty department.

"Mr. Smythe's interests were varied. At one time he was a professional baseball player. He played with the Cleveland Baseball Club for one year in 1900. It was professional baseball that brought Mr. Smythe to Cleveland.

"Music was important to Mr. Smythe. He was director of music and tenor soloist of the Windermere Presbyterian Church. Mr. Smythe was also active in settlement work. He had charge of the music at Goodrich House and at Alta House and for one year was director of the Glee Club of the Y. M. C. A.

"Mr. Smythe was a member of the Cleveland Real Estate Board; the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce and National Chamber of Commerce. He belonged to the Hermit Club; Union Club; Clifton Club and the Old Colony Club."*

Mr. Smythe's Clifton Park home was at 18144 Clifton Road.

*From Cleveland and Its Environs, by E. M. Avery and the kindness of Mrs. F. U. S. Gilbert.

Francis W. Treadway

Mr. Treadway was an attorney. During the years 1909 and 1910 Mr. Treadway served as Lt. Governor of the State of Ohio under Governor Harmon. While serving the State of Ohio, Mr. Treadway and others were successful in passing House Bill #44, which provided for two new teacher training schools in Ohio. These schools were Kent State University and Bowling Green University. Years later the signers of Ohio Bill #44 were honored with student residences named for them. At Bowling Green is Treadway Hall.

After two years in public service Mr. Treadway returned to his private law practice which he preferred more than public life. Here in Cleveland he could pursue his pleasure of enjoying his family. Even though Mr. Treadway was a quiet person he still liked people and he liked them to be guests in his home.

For complete relaxation and change of pace Mr. Treadway played golf. He was a charter member of the Westwood Country Club and he served as President of that club. Sailing and fishing were other pastimes.

Mr. Russell Treadway, son of F. W. Treadway, recalls the great coasting parties down Beach Road hill in the winter. He also remembers having his tonsils removed on a dining room table at the old Clifton Club. His family spent summer vacations at the Clifton Club years before they became Clifton Park residents.

The Treadway home in Clifton Park was built in 1909 at 17839 Lake Road.

A. T. Kinney

"Mr. Kinney was born at Amherst, Ohio in 1854. He began his business career as a newsboy for the Cleveland Herald. His father was Henry R. Kinney, a cigar manufacturer on Cleveland's west side.

"Mr. Kinney became interested in the shore side of lake shipping and he eventually controlled several sailing vessels in the bulk trade. At the age of ninety-five (1949) Mr. Kinney still considers himself a newsboy. He does not like to talk about himself explaining, 'People talk too much about themselves'."

The A. T. Kinney Steamship Company was organized in 1909 to haul iron ore, coal, and other bulk materials. At the age of seventy-five years Mr. Kinney disposed of his fleet of five vessels. The ships are still operating (1949) on the lakes under the same names he gave them: Steamer, A. S. Ashley, A. T. Kinney, Robert Wallace, Robert L. Ireland and Andrew S. Upson.

The office in the Rockefeller Building twenty years after the retirement of Mr. Kinney still has the name A. T. Kinney Steamship Company on the door. Mr. Kinney's private affairs are conducted here. He keeps in daily contact with his secretary and makes infrequent visits to his office through the year. *

Mr. Kinney was an unforgettable character and much loved by his family. He was a tough business man to deal with, but his word was his bond. In his quiet way he helped a lot of people. Mr. Kinney was a charter member of the Westwood Club and a member of the Union Club. **

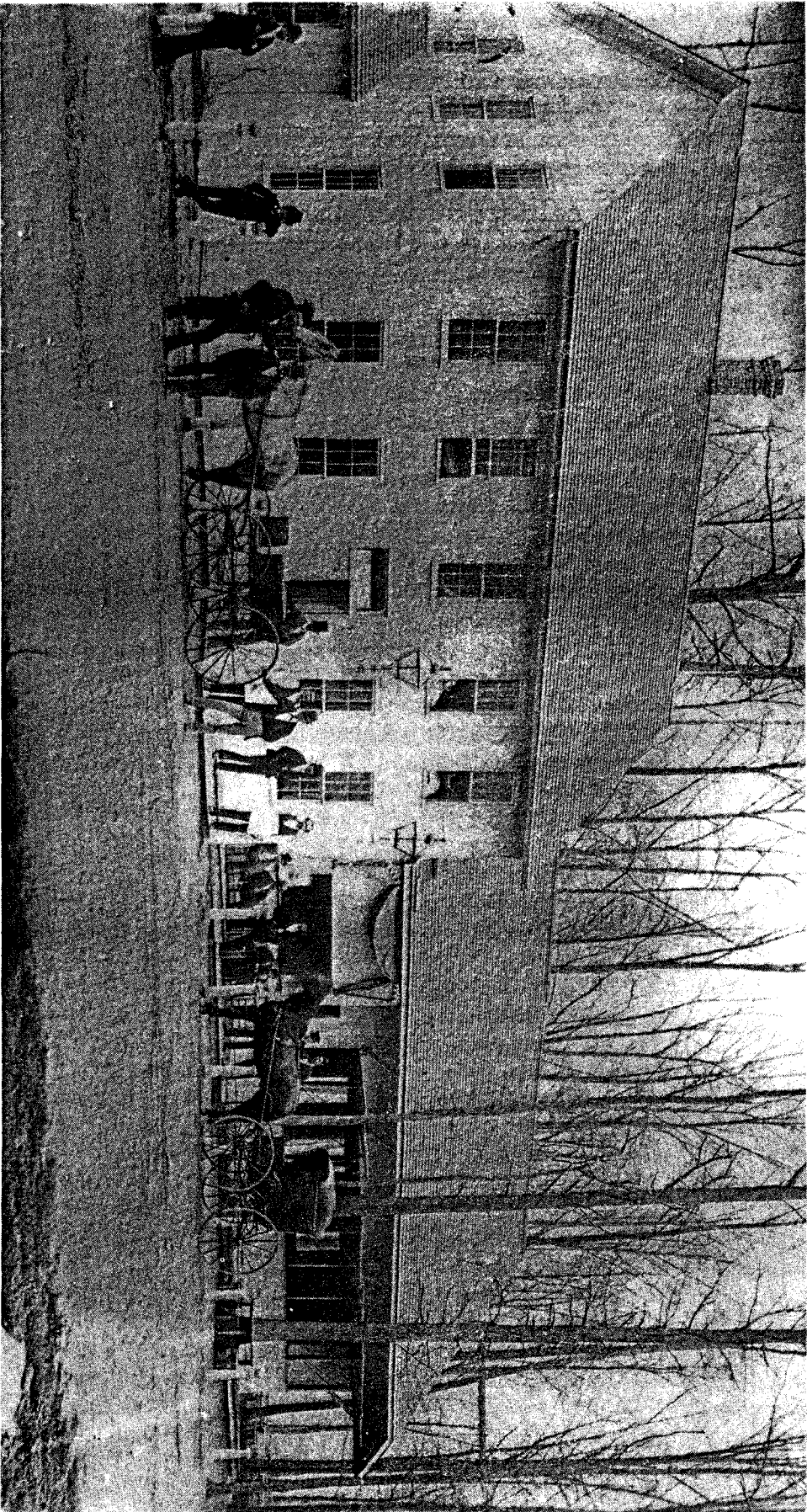
Mr. Kinney's Clifton Park home was at 17824 Lake Road.

*From Marine News, by Bertram B. Lewis, Marine Editor, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Sunday, June 12, 1949.

**From Mrs. Rockwell Smith, Mr. Kinney's niece.

Hotels, Taverns . . . Lake View House
Rocky River . . . Fred Raff, proprietor

(Photo Courtesy of Margaret Butler)



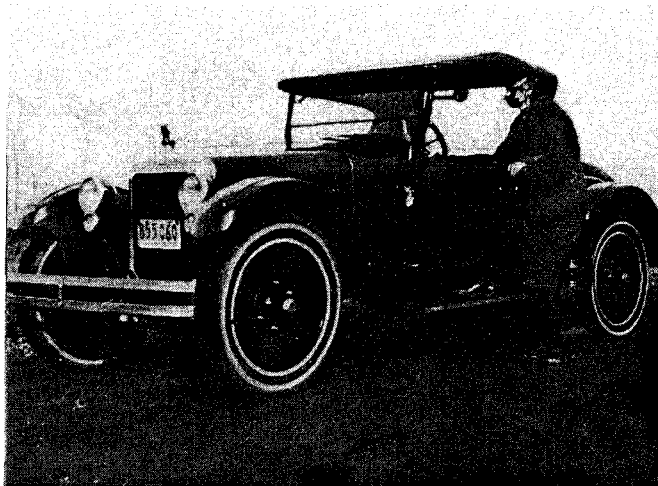
An 1874 map of Rockport shows
Lake View House located in
Clifton Park.

Lake View House, Rocky River.



Harry Hoffman's twin sisters, Mrs. Edwin Lehr (Muriel) and Mrs. Carl Tildes (Carol)
(Photograph courtesy of Mrs. Edwin Lehr)

Martha Adams and her marvelous machine, a Wills-St. Clair, 1923. Photo courtesy of Mrs. Wm. C. Sessions.



Beech Road



Photo courtesy of Mr. Frank Jontzen

(Photo courtesy of Mary Jane Adams)



Bob Albrecht	Lois Saunders	E. E. Adams
Harry Hoffman		Hoffman twins
Jim Sprankle	Ralph Newell	Omar Ranney
Carl Robinette		Ed Sprankle

Clifton Beach and Lagoon about 1912

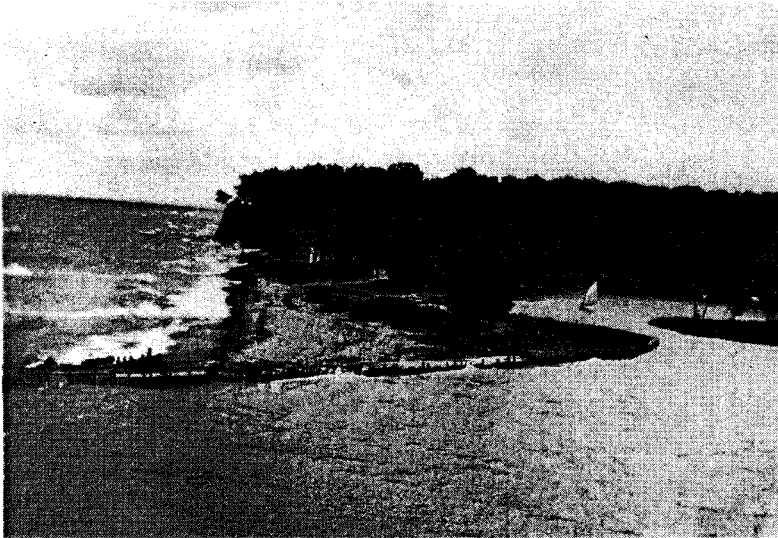


Photo courtesy of James T. Van Dorn

One of the splendors of the 1920's
Alexander Winton's yacht, "LaBelle"

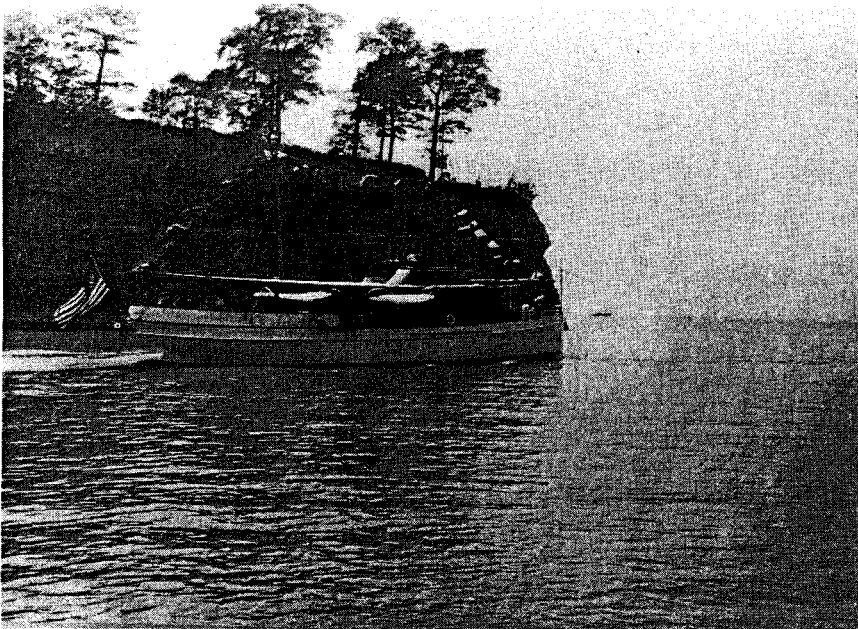


Photo courtesy of Mary Jane Adams

Mr. Louis Hill and his twin
daughters, Mrs. Wm. C. Sessions
(Marian) and Mrs. Russell
Treadway (Margaret)

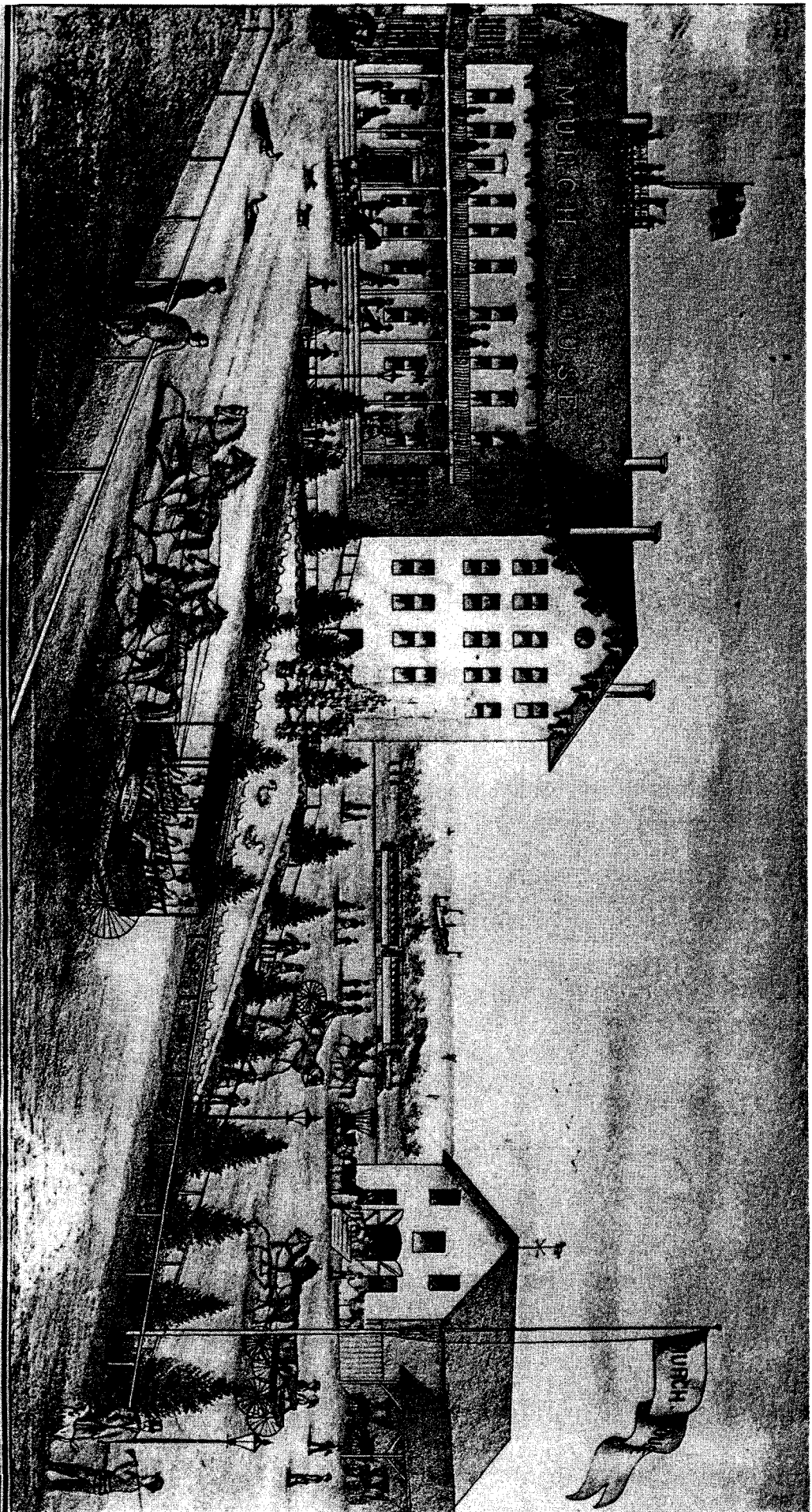


Photo courtesy of Mrs. Wm. C.
Sessions



Photograph courtesy of Mr. Hans Penndorf

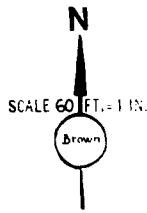
Forest City Ice Company was established in 1852 in Cleveland, Ohio. Advertising in Cleveland Directories began in 1880 (on Clifton Beach). The icehouse on the beach was one of the branches of the company owned by Gustav A. Weitz, grandfather of Gustave Ruetenik, 18177 Clifton Road. By the time the beach was being cleared of outside enterprises the icehouse had changed hands and was called The Cleveland Ice and Refrigerator Co. There was a court order demanding its removal. This action was in the 1890's.



MURCH HOUSE, ROCKY RIVER, CUYAHOGA CO. OHIO.

Rockport Township Business Directory.

- Lewis Nicholson & Co.**, Proprietors of Lake Erie Nursery, grow every variety of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Grapevines, Shrubs, Evergreens, &c. In their Greenhouses are kept a complete stock of Flowering and Hothouse Plants. Flowers furnished for Parties, Weddings, &c., at all times. East Rockport.
- Wm. Sixt**, Propr. of Sherman House. A fine Hall for the accommodation of Balls, Parties, &c., in connection with the house.
- John French**, Builder, P. O. East Rockport.
- C. W. Banney**, Fruit Grower. Every variety of small Fruit in abundance during the season. East Rockport.
- Wm. Maile**, Propr. of Brickkiln and Drain Tile Works, keeps constantly on hand every size of Tile at bottom prices, East Rockport.
- J. C. Hall**, Grower of Fruit, East Rockport.
- G. F. Kraus**, Rocky River, Propr. of Restaurant; also, extensive grounds and buildings in connection for Picnics, Excursions, &c., cor. Elm and Detroit Sts.
- M. C. Hall**, Grower of Fruit and Vegetables; also, Plants for sale in season, every variety; East Rockport.
- Benno Martinetz**, Propr. of Greenhouse. All kinds of Cut Flowers, Wreaths, &c. made up to order in the best manner, at low rates. Detroit Street, West Cleveland.
- J. A. Parsons**, Contractor and Builder, East Rockport.
- Frederick Wright** offers for sale a number of choice Lots in what was known as the Granger townplot, Rocky River.
- F. S. Clappitt**, Painting and Graining, East Rockport.
- Gideon T. Pease**, Township Trustee.
- G. A. Beebe**, Propr. of Rocky River Nursery, grows and has for sale every variety of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Grapevines, Evergreens, Hedge Plants, Roses, and Flowering Shrubs, East Rockport.
- Beech Grove**, the most romantic Picnic ground, at Rocky River, close to the Lake. Dining Hall, Confectionery, Bowling Alley, Shooting Gallery, Bath-houses, Flying Swings, &c. in connection. John N. Knoll, Proprietor.
- Williams Brothers**, Proprs. of the Rocky River Boat House. Steam Yacht, Sail and Row Boats to let. Picnics, Fishing Parties, &c. supplied at all times.
- O. P. Stafford**, Dealer in Flour, Feed, Groceries, Provisions, and Notions generally, Rocky River.
- D. Webb**, Butcher, runs a wagon. Meat delivered to any part of town free of charge. Also, Fruit and Vegetable Dealer. East Rockport.
- Frederick Minut**, Proprietor of Hotel, one mile south of Lorain St. Plank Road. Large Hall on second floor, fitted especially for accommodation of Balls, Parties, Concerts, &c.
- Joseph Z. Filiere** offers his Farm for sale, consisting of 39 acres of choice land, located on L. S. and M. S. R. R., six miles from city. Fair buildings, Timber, Orchard, small Fruits, Vineyard, and living Water. For terms, apply on premises.
- J. W. Williams**, Stock Dealer; also, furnishes milk to Hotels and Families.
- Peter Smidt**, Propr. of Grocery and Dealer in Flour, Feed, and general Groceries; also, a fine Hall in connection for Balls, Parties, &c., one mile south of Lindale, on C. C. C. and I. R. R.
- John Gahan**, Township Trustee.
- Andrew Kyle**, Postmaster and Justice of the Peace, Rockport.
- Henry Beach**, Grower of Fruit and Vegetables, East Rockport.
- George G. Mulhern**, Superintendent of Rocky River R. R.; Office at Murch House.
- A. T. Jordou**, Grocer of Vegetables of every variety, Rockport.
- C. R. Jordon**, Milk Dealer. Pure milk at wholesale. Rockport.
- H. A. Mastick**, Postal Clerk of L. S. and M. S. R. R. P. O. Rockport.
- D. W. Hogan**, Agent for Singer Sewing Machine; P. O. Rockport.
- J. A. Potter**, Bricklayer and Plasterer, Rockport.
- W. E. Eggleston** offers his Farm for sale, consisting of 60 acres, desirably located in Rockport, on Coe Ridge; two good dwelling houses, with suitable barns, sheds, and outbuildings, living soft water in abundance, a good orchard of choice fruit, 30 acres of fine garden land. Will sell in whole or part at favorable terms. For particulars apply on the premises.
- J. W. & F. J. Spencer**, Proprs. of Brick and Drain Tile Works. Every size of Tile on hand at rates to suit the times.
- Andrew Worshing**, Propr. of Steam Sawmill. Lumber for sale of all kinds. Custom sawing done to order.
- D. Dardinger**, Proprietor of Summer Boarding House at Tisdale Point. Boat Landing and extensive grounds in connection for the accommodation of Picnics, Excursions, &c. Rocky River.
- John Granger**, Farmer and Stock Dealer.
- H. Dreyer**, Veterinary Surgeon, treats Horses and Stock generally at reasonable rates, Rockport.
- G. W. Andrews**, Contractor and Bridge Builder.
- F. H. Wager**, Dealer in Real Estate and small Fruit Grower, East Rockport.
- A. N. Clark**, Real Estate Dealer and Breeder of fine blooded Horses.
- Smith Woodbury**, Fruit and Vegetable Grower, East Rockport.
- J. P. Kirtland**, M.D., LL.D.

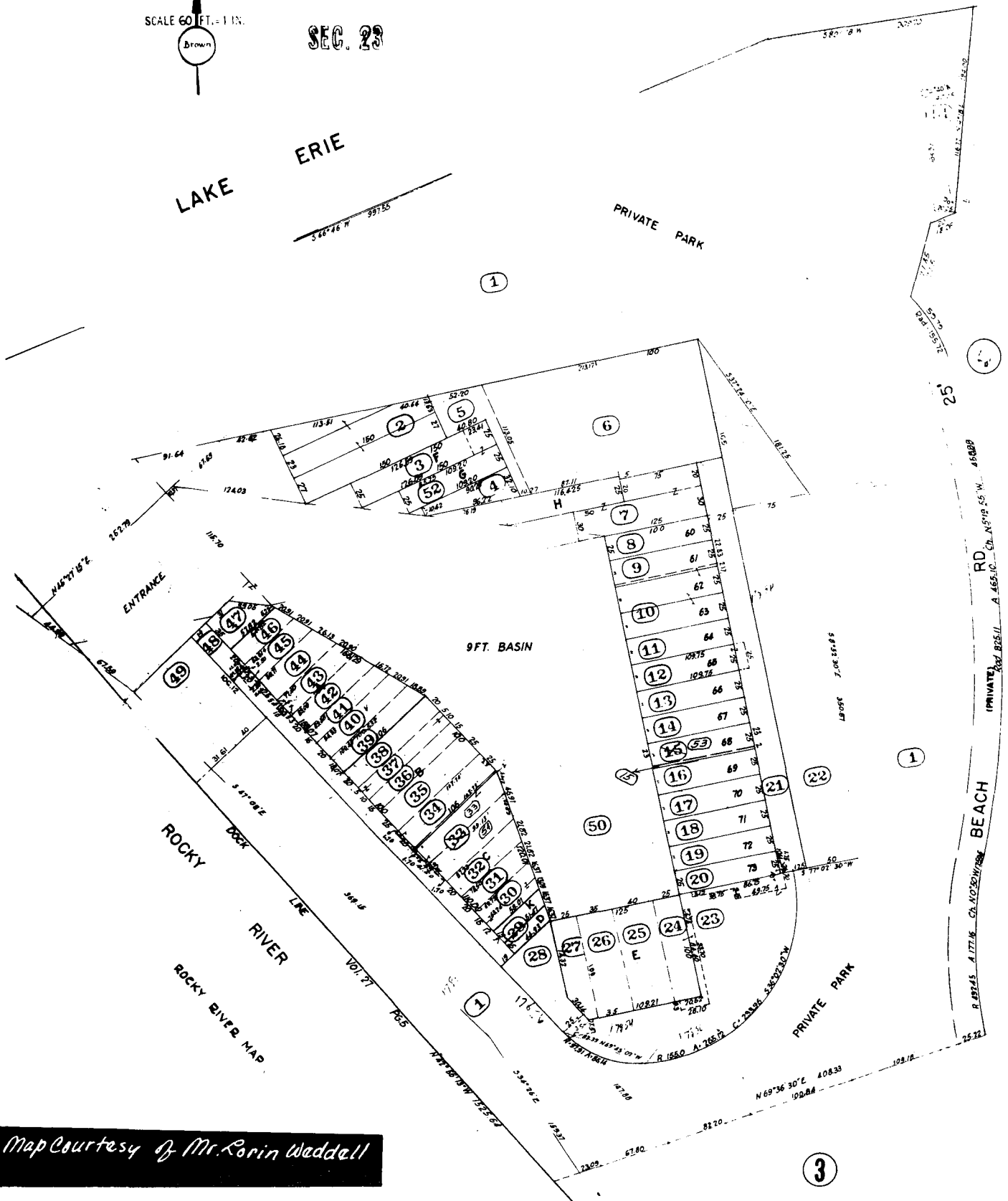


CITY OF LAKEWOOD MAP 311

SEC. 23

LAKE ERIE

PRIVATE PARK



Map Courtesy of Mr. Lorin Waddell

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to express thanks to all the people in Clifton Park and elsewhere whose memories, materials and comments made this book possible. Among them are these:

Miss Martha Adams	Mrs. C. Edward Kendel
Miss Mary Jane Adams	Mrs. Edward Kendel
Miss Ruth Allen	Mrs. George Kleinsmith
Mrs. John Anderson	Mrs. C. Craig Kimball
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Albrecht	Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Krause
Mrs. Joseph Avellone	Mrs. Raymond Lawrence
Mr. & Mrs. Clinton Barry	Mrs. J. C. La Fever
Mrs. Glenn A. Barth	Mrs. William La Riche
Miss Clara Benes	Mrs. Edwin A. Lehr
Dr. & Mrs. John Bibbs	Mrs. John Linn
Mrs. Leonard Bills	Mrs. James Loughran
Mrs. Warner Bishop	Mr. Lloyd McCartney
Mrs. Robert Bowers	Mrs. Timothy F. McDonald
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Briggs	Mr. & Mrs. Frank McKeigan
Mr. & Mrs. Stephan Burgyan	Mr. Arthur Meifert
Mrs. Clyde H. Butler	Mr. Henry Metcalf
Mrs. George S. Case	Mr. Isaac S. H. Metcalf
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Mr. C. Walter Gehring, Jr.	Mr. Warren K. Roberts
Mr. William Gerber	Mr. & Mrs. John Robinson
Mrs. Frank U. S. Gilbert	Mr. & Mrs. Warren Root
Mrs. Bernard J. Guthery	Mr. & Mrs. Bernard P. Ruetenik
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Harbaugh	Mr. & Mrs. Gustave Ruetenik
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Hartford	Mrs. John E. Rupert
Mrs. D. Rusk Haverfield	Sister St. Ann
Mrs. Stella Heil	Mrs. Clarence Seaman
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Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jontzen	Mr. Marcus Smythe
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Jontzen	Mr. Wallace Snow
Mrs. William Kaylor	Mr. & Mrs. Edmund J. Sprankle

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Mrs. Kenneth Wasley
Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur J. Wright
Mr. & Mrs. James A. Wigmore
Mr. Frederick N. (Bud) Winkler
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Sources of Information and Bibliography:

Army Engineers, East Ninth Street Pier
Cleveland Water Department, Mr. E. R. Ohlenschlager
Cleveland Public Library History Dept., Miss Janet Coe Sanborn and the Reference Room
Cuyahoga County Records, County Administration Building
Great Lakes Historical Society, Mr. Cletus P. Schneider
Lakewood City Hall, Engineering Dept., Mr. Schofield
Lakewood Public Library, Mrs. Ralph R. Lephart and Miss Lorraine Furbish
Western Reserve Historical Society Library - books used for reference and clues
Annals of Early Settlers Association of Cuyahoga County, Ohio
History of Cuyahoga County 1879 by Crisfield Johnson
Early Days of Lakewood, George Lindstrom
The Lakewood Story, Margaret M. Butler
Annual Report of Lake Carriers
Cleveland City Directories 1874, etc.
Titus & Simmons Atlas of 1874 of Cuyahoga County
A. H. Mueller Atlas of 1898 of Cuyahoga County
A History of Clevelanders of 1914 by Burrows Bros.
Boys Grown Tall, A Story of American Initiative by Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1914
Representative Clevelanders by Cleveland Topics Co. 1927
Cleveland and Its Environs by E. M. Avery
Cleveland, Making of a City, Wm. Ganson Rose

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Miss Martha R. and Mary Jane Adams, Shaker Heights, Ohio
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GUARANTORS

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph F. Briggs, Lakewood, Ohio
Mr. and Mrs. George M. Foley, Clifton Park
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Sprankle, Clifton Park

This is the end of our Vignettes. No one now can remember why the name Clifton Park was chosen. Perhaps it is linked with the West/Southern families of early Rockport township.

After one hundred years Clifton Park has indeed changed - but to those who are fond of this tiny corner it will always be "The Park".

ERRATA FOR VIGNETTES OF CLIFTON PARK

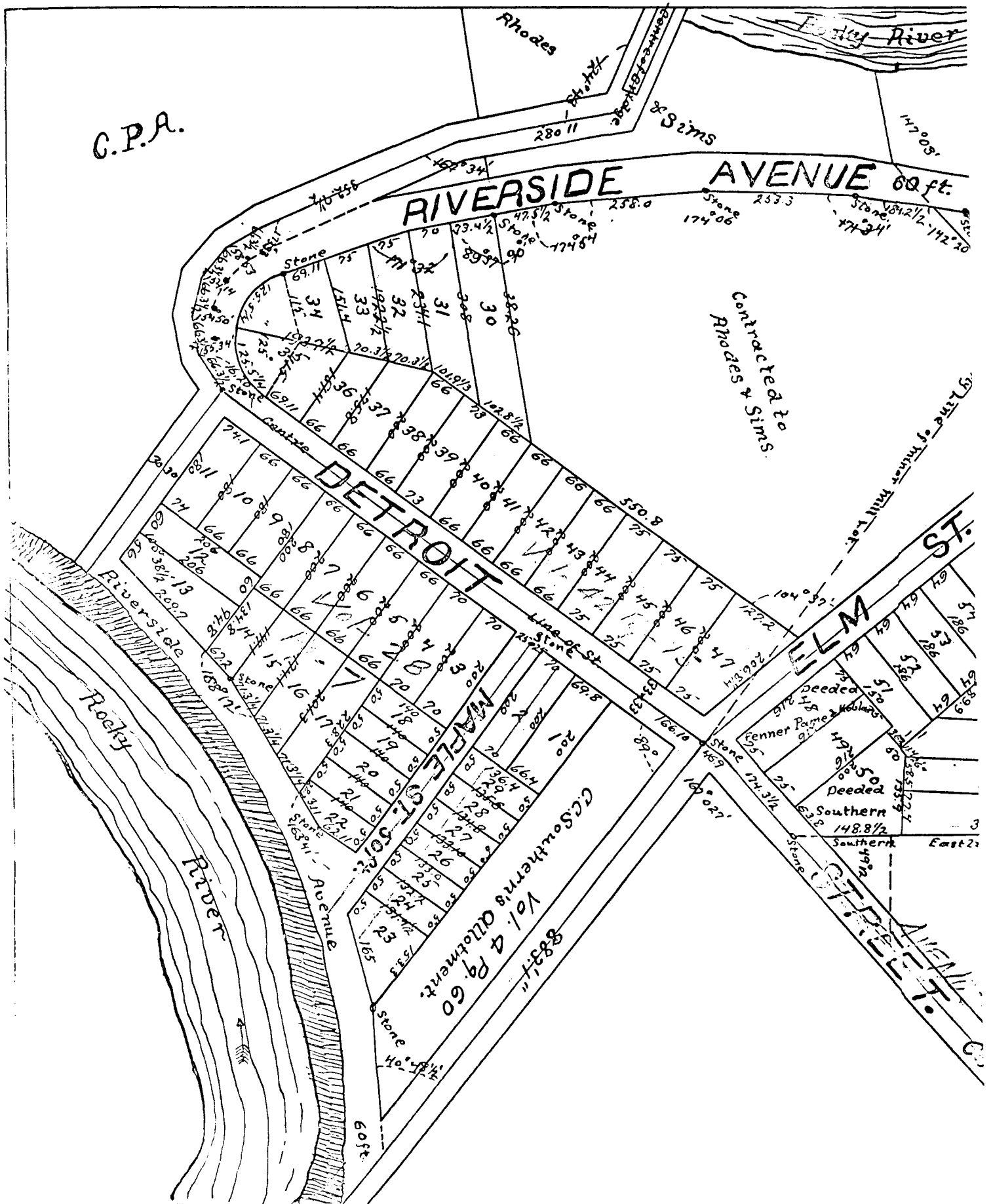
Thank You Robert Albrecht

- Page 17: Second paragraph—change to read, library fireplace and wall . . . omit and. The wainscoating in the library is of the same design.
Fifth paragraph—All the bedrooms—three of them strike the word bedroom. Not necessary. Omit the inner quote marks. Use just the quotes at the beginning and end of statement.
- Page 28: Should read Lakewood Yachting Club and Interlake Yachting Association.
- Page 38: Omit the apostrophe on the name Van Sweringens.
- Page 40: The Beachhouse is made of concrete block not brick.
- Page 45: The garden stood beside the Thossell home, not behind.
- Page 55: Fifth paragraph—add that the Kettering Yacht was the OLIVE K. owned by Gene Kettering who lived at 18180 Clifton Rd. and later at 17897 Lake Road.
- Page 63: First paragraph—balancing the beautiful window is a carved stone fireplace.
- Page 85: Second paragraph—change He like to He liked.
- Page 96: The Winton boathouse/beach house was built of cement block not sand stone.
- Page 120: The yacht is not the LABELLE but the MAHAPA owned by Mabel Hanna Parsons.

* * *

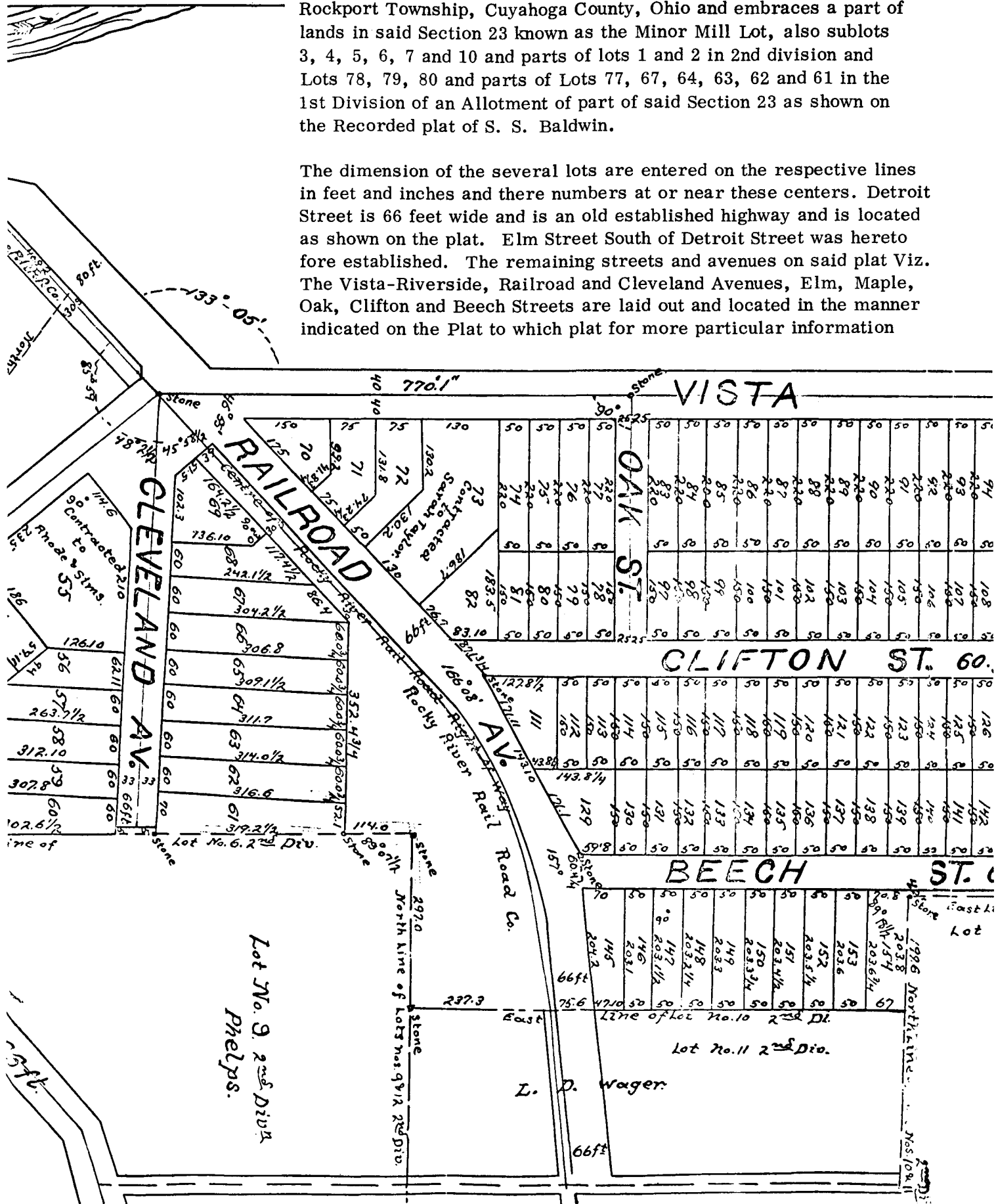
A BELATED THANK YOU TO RUTH HUNCZAK from Blythe Gehring

C.P.A.



Map of the Clifton Park Association Allotment of part of Section 23 Rockport Township, Cuyahoga County, Ohio and embraces a part of lands in said Section 23 known as the Minor Mill Lot, also sublots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10 and parts of lots 1 and 2 in 2nd division and Lots 78, 79, 80 and parts of Lots 77, 67, 64, 63, 62 and 61 in the 1st Division of an Allotment of part of said Section 23 as shown on the Recorded plat of S. S. Baldwin.

The dimension of the several lots are entered on the respective lines in feet and inches and there numbers at or near these centers. Detroit Street is 66 feet wide and is an old established highway and is located as shown on the plat. Elm Street South of Detroit Street was heretofore established. The remaining streets and avenues on said plat Viz. The Vista-Riverside, Railroad and Cleveland Avenues, Elm, Maple, Oak, Clifton and Beech Streets are laid out and located in the manner indicated on the Plat to which plat for more particular information



is hereby made. Stone monuments were set at the point marked "Stone"
on the plat. All of which I certify to be correct.

Signed, George E. Hartnell, Surveyor, Cleveland, December 1, 1874

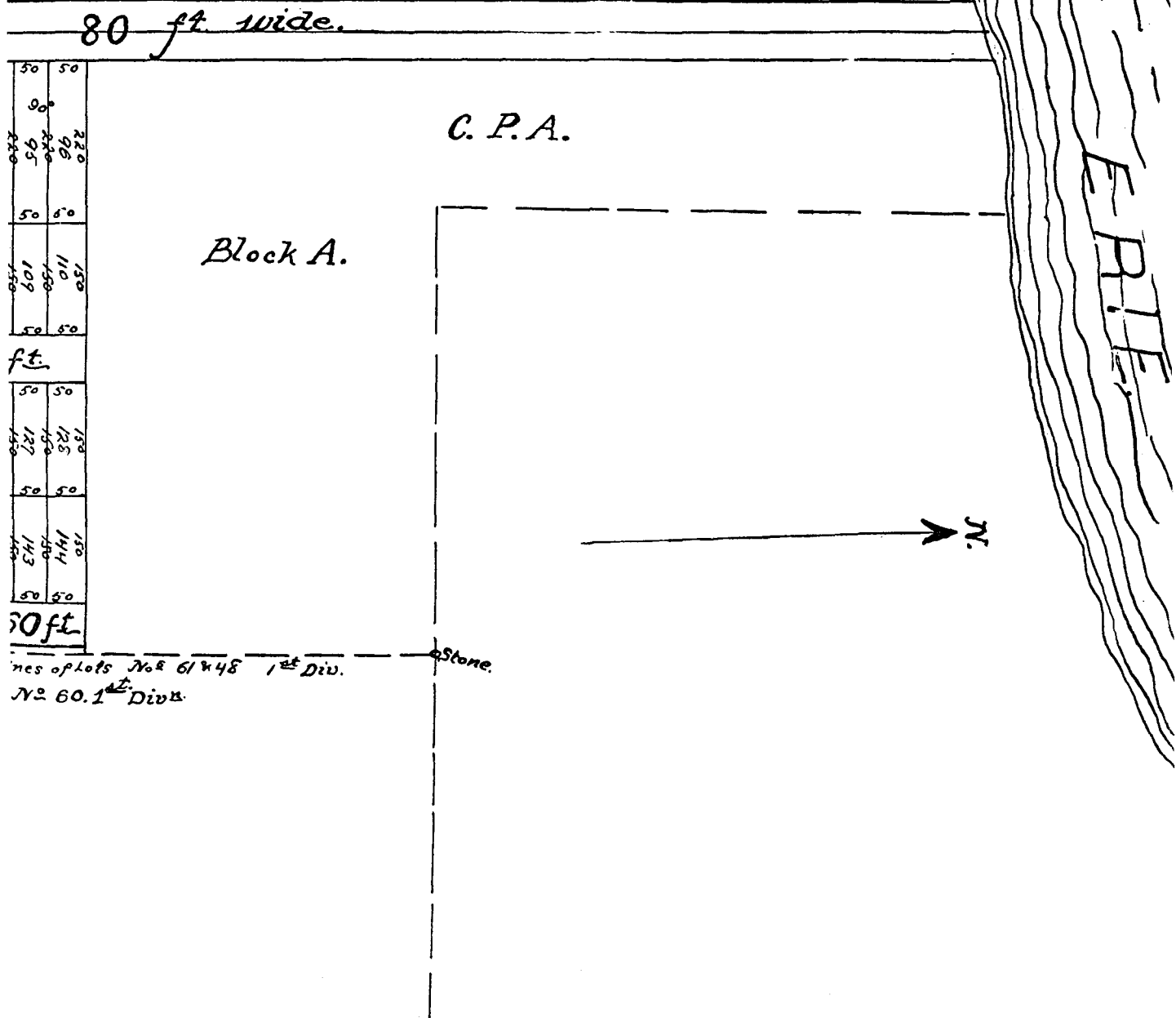
We acknowledge the above plat as herein described to be our free act
and deed and do hereby dedicate to public use the Streets and Avenues
indicated on the same.

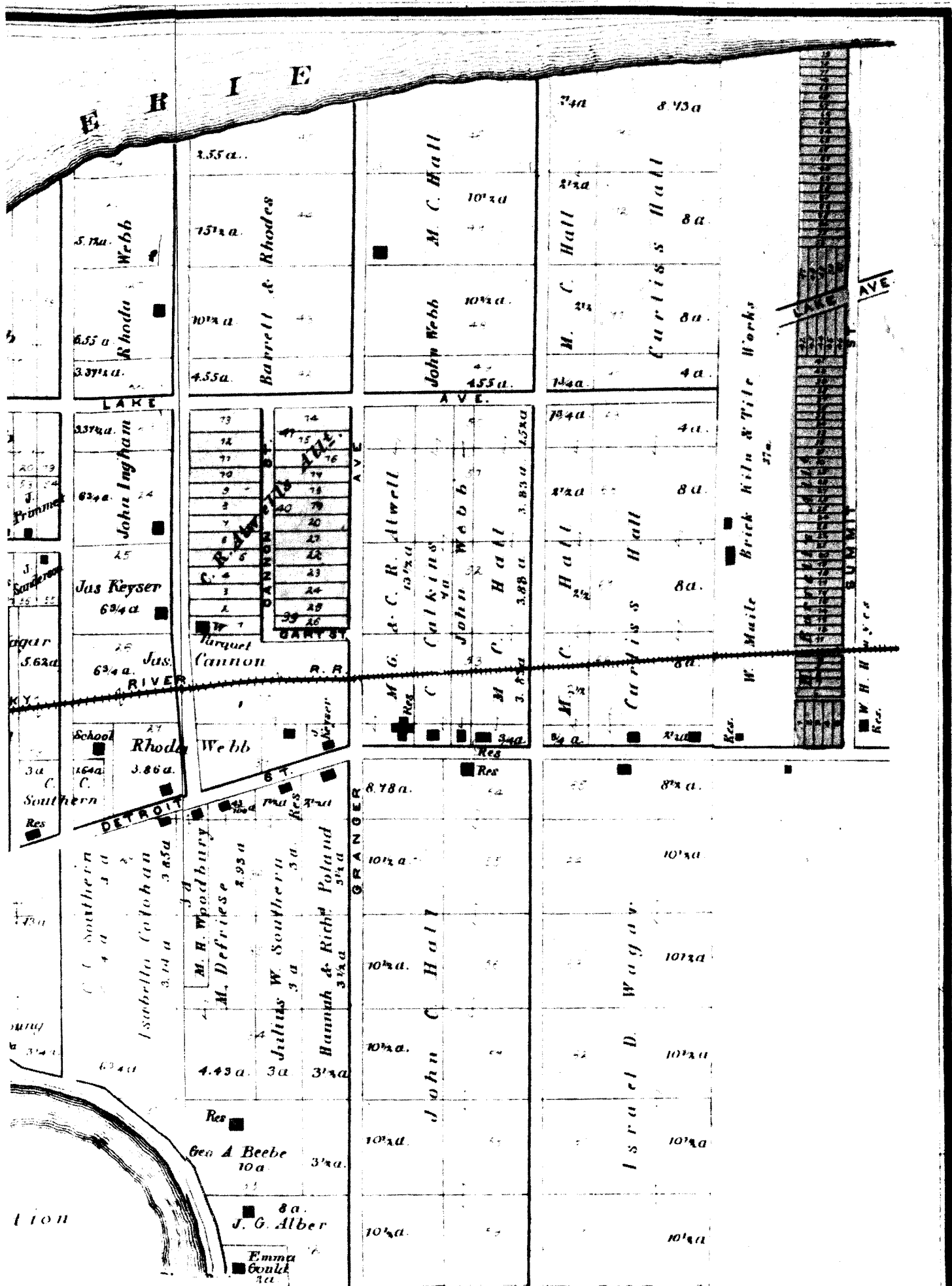
Signed, Thomas Discon, President of Clifton Park Association, Elias
Sims, Daniel P. Rhodes (by Jas. F. Rhodes, his atty.) Israel D. Wagar

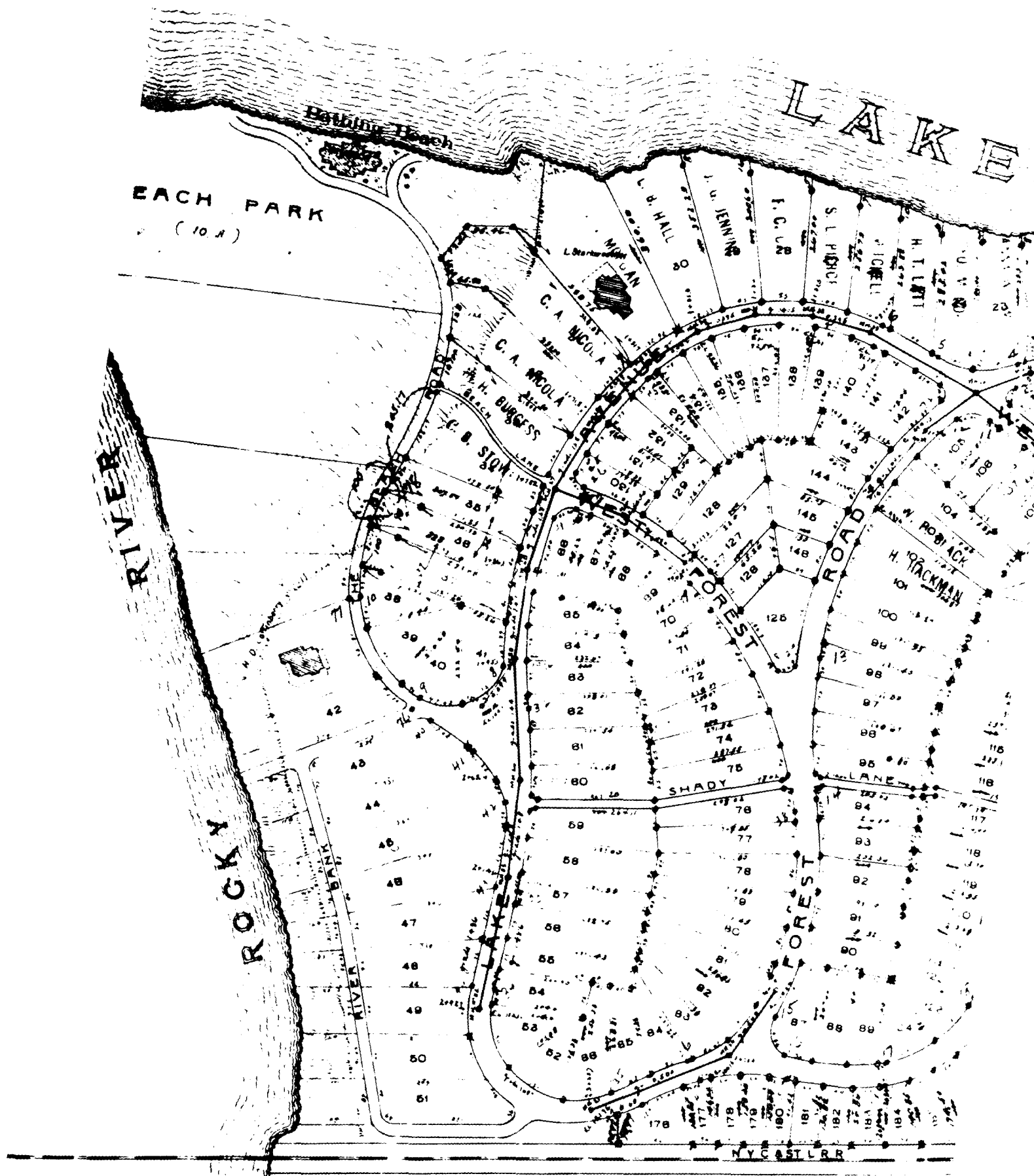
All with a seal after their names.

March 12, 1875 Received Josiah Barber, Notary Public

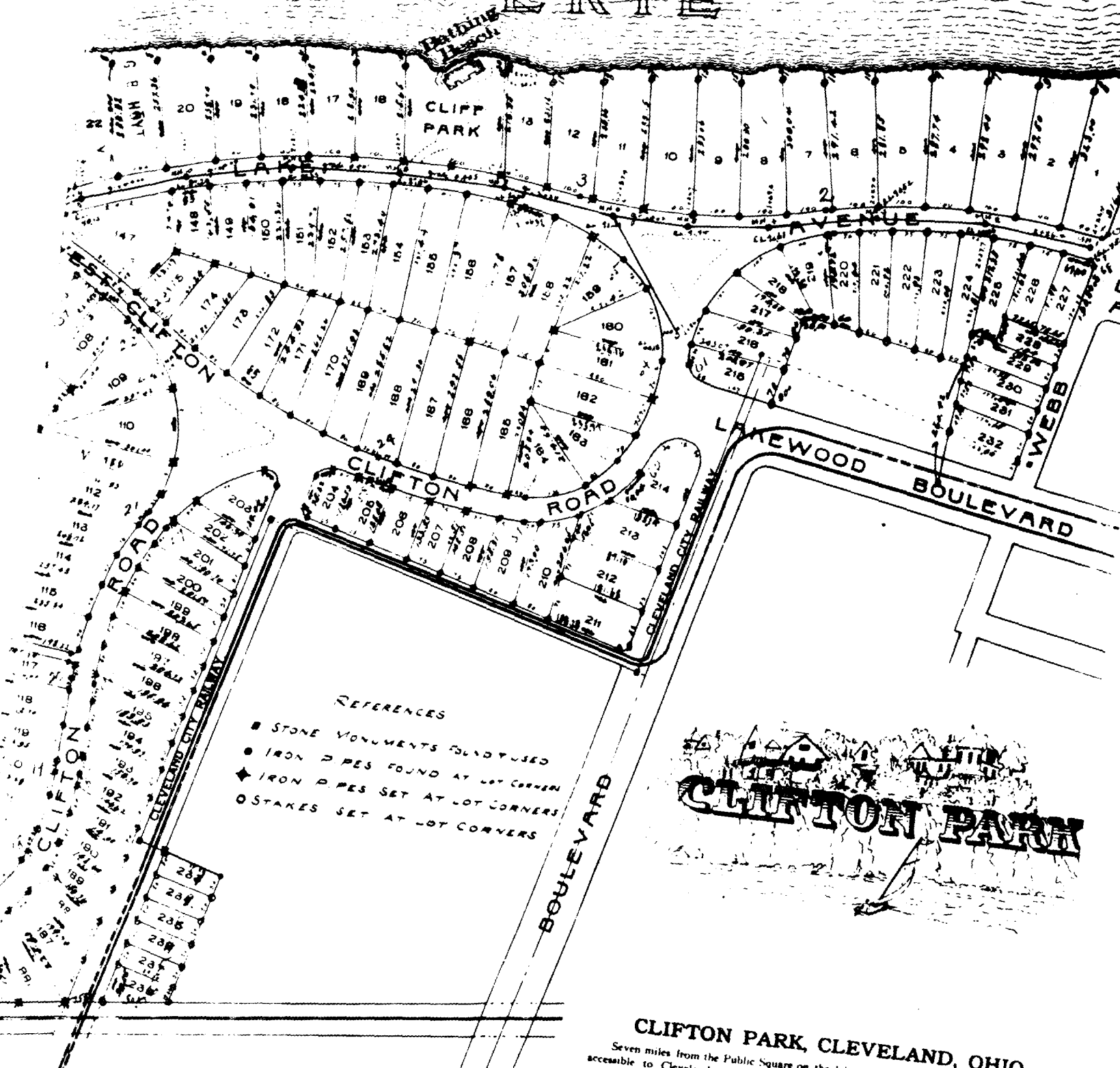
April 12, 1875 Recorded H. H. Wise, Deputy Recorder







ERIE



CLIFTON PARK, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Seven miles from the Public Square on the lake. The finest suburban residence property accessible to Cleveland. Combining all the conveniences of city homes—water, gas, sewerage—with the exceptional advantages of pure air, forest grounds, private parks, beaches, boating and fishing privileges with every lot. Easy and quick communication to the city by electric cars for five-cent fare. Magnificent boulevards are under construction to the center of the city, upon which will be operated the new electric West-Ford cars, giving minute service from the Public Square to Clifton Park. Lake Avenue is also being extended into this property.

**2210
Clifton Park about 1849*

Officers: John Jennings, Preside.
F. C. Ford, Vice-President
L. B. Hall, Vice-President
H. R. Newcomb, Treasurer
H. H. Burgess, Secretary



Born and reared on the East Side of Cleveland, Blythe Gehring moved to Washington D.C. as a young woman employed by Pennsylvania Central Airline. Transferred back to Cleveland as a reservationist for the airline, she lived in the old Westlake Hotel, the pink stucco landmark which overlooks the Rocky River and Clifton Lagoons from the west bank. Blythe with her husband and two children moved to Clifton Park in 1959 where the pending extension of Clifton Boulevard was the subject of hot debate. Her curiosity about the "Park" and the impact the extended road would have on it led to a seven year research project culminating in the publication of "Vignettes of Clifton Park" in 1970. The original limited first edition sold out that first year. This new edition represents the first reprint of the original edition.